

## Bundesrat approves unification

BONN (AP) — The Upper House of Parliament approved a treaty Friday that clears the way for unity with East Germany on Oct. 3 despite a warning that unification will be costly for West Germany. All 11 West German states represented in the Bundesrat approved the unification treaty. One day earlier the document was ratified by the Bundestag, parliament's lower house, and by the East German parliament. The treaty acts as the formal document uniting the two Germanys, and reconciles the vastly differing legal systems of both nations. Although the Bundesrat members gave their formal blessing to the treaty, they stressed their worries about the high costs of unifying with their economically troubled neighbour. Bremen Mayor Klaus Wedemeier, a member of the opposition Social Democrats, reiterated demands that Chancellor Helmut Kohl quickly tell the voters whether tax increases will be needed to finance unification. Kohl's government in recent days has changed it changed that tax hikes won't be needed, saying they should be enacted as a last resort. The Social Democrats would like to see Kohl openly admit the need for tax hikes before united German elections are held on Dec. 2.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

## 'Iran ready to work for Gulf peace'

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani called for peace in the Gulf Friday saying Iran was ready to work to achieve it. Rafsanjani, speaking ahead of a visit to Tehran by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, told worshippers at Friday prayers in Tehran that Iran did not seek revenge against Gulf war foe Iraq, or Kuwait which supported it with money. "We are not after revenge and despite the whole lot of aggression against us, we are willing to help establish peace in the region through our Islamic role," Iran's official news agency IRNA quoted him as saying. The restoration of regional tranquility was "vital necessity," Rafsanjani said. Rafsanjani, whose comments contrasted with a more hardline anti-U.S. stance taken by Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, called for a complete Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. He denounced the deployment of U.S. and other forces in Saudi Arabia and called for "the exit of all outside forces" from the region. Khamenei said last week the fight against U.S. forces in the Gulf amounted to holy war.

Volume 15 Number 4501

AMMAN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1990, RABI'U AWWAL 3, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Crown Prince, Ecevit discuss Gulf

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit paid a brief visit to Jordan and left for home Friday. During the visit, Ecevit was received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to discuss Turkish-Arab relations and the Gulf crisis as well as Jordan's continued efforts to defuse tension in the Gulf. Ecevit, who arrived here from Baghdad met with Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein to discuss the Gulf situation.

## Iraq to allow in Arab expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Iraqi government is allowing all Arab nationals with permits to reside and work in Iraq or Kuwait to return to their places of work as of Thursday, Sept. 20, until Oct. 23. A statement in Baghdad said that those who fail to return by the deadline will risk losing their right to return at all, according to a report in Al Ra'i Friday. The report quoted an official at the Iraqi embassy in Amman as saying that the new measure applies to all Arab nationals, even those who left Baghdad and Kuwait after Aug. 23 and those who were formerly banned from returning to Iraq and Kuwait on Sept. 4.

## SPA denies deportations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) has denied reports that the Saudi government had deported 50 Jordanian families in view of Jordan's stand with regard to the Gulf crisis. Reuters quoted the Saudi agency as saying that reports and rumours about such deportations were groundless.

## Hawatmeh in Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nayef Hawatmeh, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) left Amman for Baghdad Thursday after taking part in a general conference by representatives of various Arab political groups in Amman to voice solidarity with the Iraqi people. A DFLP spokesman said that Hawatmeh's visit to Baghdad was intended to show solidarity with the Iraqi people.

## Cheney in Spain

MADRID (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney began talks on the Gulf crisis and NATO issues with his Spanish counterpart Narcis Serra Friday. Cheney, in Spain for 24 hours on a visit originally scheduled for July, was also due to meet King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. The United States announced Tuesday that it would begin to close 127 overseas bases and reduce operations in 23 others next year in response to warmer East-West relations and budget pressures at home. Eleven bases in Spain will be affected.

## Hizbollah, Amal renew clashes

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Rival Shi'ite militias, vying for control of their 1.3 million-strong community, battled in South Lebanon Friday, security sources said. Three people were wounded in the fighting. The sources said pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) and Syrian-backed Amal militiamen fought with machine guns, mortars and artillery in the strategic Iqlim Al Tufah mountain ridge, some 40 kilometres south of Beirut. The clashes were the latest in a series of violations of a ceasefire brokered earlier this month by Iran and Syria.

## French 'volunteer' delegation in Iraq

NICOSIA (AP) — A delegation of French "volunteers" has arrived in Baghdad to stay at Iraq's "vital installations" as a gesture of peace, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Friday. The agency said the French were "guests of the Iraqi people," the same term applied to Western men held at military and other strategic locations in an effort to prevent an attack on Iraq by U.S. and other military forces. INA reported the French delegation said it supported Iraq.

## Taher accuses Tapline of breaching terms of agreement S. Arabia cuts off oil supply to Jordan

By Ghadeer Taher  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan confirmed Friday that the Saudi Arabian Tapline company has stopped pumping crude oil to the Kingdom as of midnight Sept. 19, 1990 with only six hours warning. "On Sept. 19 at 6:00 p.m. the Jordanian government received a letter from the Tapline company that said because of the government's delay in payment of the sum requested in full... it has stopped pumping oil through the Tapline line as of midnight of the day..." said Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The minister said the company demanded payment of \$46 million — \$40 million for crude oil supplied to Jordan in the second half of 1985 and \$6 million for crude oil supplies in June 1990. The Tapline company requested payment the same day the government received the letter.

According to the minister, Jordan replied to the company's payment demand in a letter, which said that payment of the \$40 million was ordered cancelled by King Fahd and "as to the \$6 million, the minister of finance has ordered immediate payment."

The minister accused the company of breaching the terms of the agreement by stopping the flow on this manner. "(This) runs against the agreement between

the government of Jordan and the Tapline company," Taher said. "The accord specifies that in case of payment delays, interest would be calculated within a rate specified in the agreement," he added.

Jordan has signed an agreement with the Tapline company to supply the country with about a million barrels, to be received at a rate of 35,000 barrels per day — half of the Kingdom's daily requirements — to compensate for the loss of Iraqi oil blocked by United Nations — imposed sanctions against Baghdad. Jordan reduced its oil imports from Iraq from 83 per cent to 40 per cent after Riyadh promised to provide at least half the Kingdom's needs.

Taher said the Jordanian government was paying all the direct and indirect costs which the Tapline was incurring to operate the line and that Jordan had paid for this purpose \$120 million.

An official, who insisted on anonymity, said the Saudi company used the "pretext" to back payments to cut off the oil.

Another official said Jordan has protested to the Saudis about the decision. "We should have been given six months' notice instead we were given six hours," the official said. The official noted King Fahd had said Jordan would be exempt from payment "but obviously this was reversed for political reasons."

Although financial matters were cited for the Saudi decision, analysts see the action as a clear political message expressing

Saudi Arabia's anger towards Jordan, where popular sentiment is running high in favour of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. His Majesty King Hussein has said he opposed the Iraqi occupation and annexation of Kuwait but he has also criticised the U.S.-led military build-up in Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi decision has come immediately after Amman hosted a conference of predominantly leftist groups. A parliamentarian said the fact that the gathering was under the King's patronage could have been misunderstood by some countries. "I am sure the Saudis do not understand that this a democratic society and people have the right to express their views. The King's position is clear."

Jordan has been complying with the global trade ban against Baghdad with the exception of oil imports, which Iraq provides to the Kingdom at a concessional price of \$16.4 per barrel compared to the market price of over \$31. Minister of Finance Basel Jaradneh said Wednesday that Jordan's imports of Iraqi oil was an interim solution until suitable alternatives could be found. He said Saudi Arabia was providing oil to the Kingdom but the terms of the trade were not yet clear.

Jordan has sought compensation and waivers for applying sanctions against its major trading partner. The finance minister said that Jordan faced economic collapse unless it received substantial amounts of financial aid.

## U.N. to appeal for Jordan aid

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council was preparing Friday to appeal for international assistance for Jordan, which has suffered economically since implementing the trade embargo against Iraq.

The Security Council deferred final approval Thursday of the letter asking the U.N. secretary general to implement recommendations for helping Jordan and a council source said the delay was over relatively minor points of language and the letter, which promises no specific sum, would probably be completed Friday.

Jordan told the council's sanctions committee a month ago that it needs grants totalling \$641 million to cover immediate requirements for four months, as well as oil and related products on concessional terms to replace supplies normally obtained from Iraq.

Jordan also said it would face annual losses totalling nearly \$2 billion.

In response, the sanctions committee drafted a report recommending an appeal to all states to provide Jordan with immediate technical, financial and material assistance.

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would be asked to assess the problems facing Jordan and to make suggestions for appropriate remedies. The letter being considered by the council in private consultations would ask Perez de Cuellar to implement these and related recommendations.

## EC proposes to tighten Iraq siege

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — The European Community (EC) Commission Friday proposed new measures to tighten the trade embargo imposed by the 12 member states against Iraq and Kuwait.

The measures include extending the embargo to include services such as transportation, construction work, engineering and consulting.

If approved by EC foreign ministers, the measures could force companies from the trade bloc that have continued work on construction and engineering projects in Iraq to abandon their work.

## Oil prices end week near nine-year highs

LONDON (R) — World oil prices were ending a turbulent week near their highest in nine years after Iraq said it was prepared for war.

Market analysts saw potential for further gains even if there is no fighting — oil remains scarce because of U.N. sanctions against Iraq and Kuwait and the northern winter is getting closer and with it higher demand.

Yet companies and governments, fearing the war of words will turn to actual conflict, are hoarding petroleum stocks.

"The oil companies are holding 99 days forward stock," said Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, former Saudi Arabian oil minister. "If they reduced this to the IEA minimum of 90 days, they could have \$21 oil," he told reporters Thursday night in Amsterdam during a week when the world benchmark crude oil, North Sea Brent blend, was quoted as high as \$36.50 per barrel for prompt loading.

The board of governors of the International Energy Agency (IEA), the West's oil "watchdog," meets in Paris Sept. 28 for the third time since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2.

Yamani is among market watchers who say Western gov-

ernments should now use the IEA to promote more use of oil stocks, despite natural reluctance to draw on them as long as fear persists that war may engulf the Middle East oil fields.

Pump prices for refined oil products are rising especially in Europe and Asia — European gasoline prices hit all-time highs this week of \$430 per tonne compared with around \$290 Aug. 2.

Scarce supplies since two big Kuwaiti refineries stopped work and strong Asian demand has tightened the market. Petrol is making the unusual journey to Europe from the Americas.

On the crude oil supply front, OPEC is making up at least three million barrels daily of some four million lost from Iraq and Kuwait, industry executives report.

But there is a shortage of refining capacity to process the heavier grades of crude oil which it is providing. Some European refineries are shut for pre-winter maintenance.

Gas oil prices look extremely strong with material being sucked into Asia and the Mediterranean from northwest Europe. Gas oil includes a range of heating and transport fuels.

## King to continue consultations with Arab leaders on Gulf

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein has returned home from Morocco, where he took part in a mini Arab summit aimed at formulating an Arab peace initiative to solve the Gulf crisis.

There were no details available on the summit, which was attended by King Hassan of Morocco and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. But in a message sent to the Moroccan monarch King Hussein said that consultations would continue.

After departing Rabat, King Hussein sent a cable to King Hassan, thanking him for the hospitality and care accorded to him and the Jordanian delegation accompanying him, and expressing appreciation to him for providing a great opportunity for him to meet with him and with Benjedid at "this critical stage."

The King noted that "the current stage which the Arab World is going through requires full understanding and joint Arab efforts capable of safeguarding the Arab Homeland and the future of its generations."

The King said that the talks in Rabat reflected the Arab leaders' interest to safeguard the Arab message and to enhance the role Arabs can play in finding solutions to their problems."

He added that the three leaders will pursue their contacts and efforts to safeguard Arab rights and interests at this critical time

when it is facing challenges inherent in the post cold war era."

Both Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have been seeking to lay the basis for an Arab peace initiative to avert a military confrontation in the Gulf.

Analysts said that securing the support of Morocco, which has sent troops to join the U.S.-led forces in Saudi Arabia, for any Arab peace initiative could help bridge the wide-ranging differences within the Arab ranks over the Gulf crisis.

Although Morocco has lent its support for the Western military build-up in the Gulf, King Hassan has made some critical statements in the French press about the deposed Kuwaiti royal family.

Arab analysts said that King Hassan might be willing to support, or at least not oppose an Arab peace initiative to appease popular criticism in his country against Western intervention in the region.

But both Jordanian and Palestinian efforts appear to be confronted with opposition by some Arab countries. PLO officials in Tunis accused some Arab countries of obstructing its peace efforts in the Gulf.

"There are certain Arab and foreign circles who are trying their best to block an Arab political solution to the Gulf crisis which the PLO and other Arab countries are working for," Bassem Abu Sharif, advisor to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told Reuters.

"The PLO is seriously involved in efforts to find common grounds for a political solution that will save the region from a catastrophic war," Abu Sharif said.

He did not name any specific Arab country, but Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has reportedly called on the U.S. to take action against Iraq.

Although the PLO has not disclosed its initiative, Palestinian officials have said that the organisation was seeking the replacement of Iraqi forces in Kuwait by Arab peace-keeping forces and holding an international peace conference to solve all of the conflicts in the region.

Abu Sharif said that there was no hope in solving the Gulf crisis without implementing all United Nations resolutions concerning the Middle East. "The Security Council could not use different criteria in dealing with the Gulf and 22 years of Israeli occupation," he said.

Efforts to establish a link between a solution for the Gulf crisis and a settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict have not picked up substantial international support yet.

A PLO delegation, which is currently visiting Moscow was trying to secure a Soviet commitment to the convening of an international conference to solve the Gulf crisis and the Middle East problem.

Some Palestinian sources said that the PLO was hoping that the Soviet Union will take a stronger position against further U.S.-led military build up in the Gulf.

Members of the PLO delegation in Moscow said that they had been given official assurances that the Soviet Union would not restore diplomatic ties with Israel unless it agreed to an international peace conference.

Yasser Abed Rabbo, a PLO Executive Committee member, played down an apparent warning of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel.

"Since we have been in Moscow, officials told us relations between Israel and the Soviet Union will not be restored unless Israel agrees to an

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## Baghdad reports air space violation

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq said Friday that two warplanes coming from Saudi Arabia had penetrated its airspace and ranged up to 10 kilometres inside the border before turning back.

A military communique on Baghdad Radio said the incident occurred at 12.14 p.m. Baghdad local time (0814 GMT) Thursday.

It did not give the type or nationality of the aircraft, which violated the Iraqi airspace at a triangle where the Saudi, Jordanian and Iraqi borders meet.

A U.S. military spokesman in the Gulf region, Michael Sherman, said: "No U.S. aircraft violated Iraqi airspace." There was no immediate comment from Saudi Arabia.

The Iraqi broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted a military spokesman as saying:

"Two aircraft coming from Saudi Arabia penetrated the Iraqi airspace at the border triangle of Iraq, Jordan and Saudi Arabia at 12.14 p.m. on Thursday Sept. 20, 1990.

"They ranged seven to 10 kilometres inside Iraqi territory, at an altitude of 9,500 metres and a speed of 1,040 kilometres per hour."

The spokesman provided no other details on the incident, the third violation of Iraqi airspace reported by Baghdad since U.S.-led multinational forces assembled in the kingdom after Iraq's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2.

## Iraq toughens hardline stand

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) urged Iraqis Friday to steel themselves for "the mother of all battles" but made clear Iraq would not fire the first shots in a Gulf war.

Its statement, vowing that Iraq would not retreat in the Gulf crisis, heightened war fears around the world and sent stock prices down and oil prices up on international markets.

But diplomats and military experts in Baghdad saw no sign of imminent hostilities, some suggest the door was still ajar for a negotiated solution to the crisis sparked by Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, a move that has sparked a huge buildup of U.S. and allied forces.

Iraqi Television interrupted its normal programmes, breaking into an Egyptian film shortly after midnight to broadcast the statement, the toughest since the crisis began.

It made no mention of peace,

political solutions or an Aug. 12 proposal by Baghdad to link a withdrawal from Kuwait to a settlement of Middle East's other problems, including the Israeli occupation of territories.

Instead, it said that Iraq was prepared to fight for its principles. "Let everybody understand that this battle is going to become the mother of all battles. There is not a single chance for any retreat..."

The statement repeatedly said that the expected battle would take place on Iraqi soil — Kuwait is now considered Iraq's 19th province — and was clearly based on the assumption of an attack by a U.S.-led multinational force in Saudi Arabia and around the Gulf.

The statement, which denounced U.S. President George Bush, Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, said Iraq would fight the

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## Iraq expels European, U.S. and Egyptian diplomats

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq has expelled military officials at 11 European Community (EC) embassies and restricted the movement of remaining diplomats, turning up the heat on a growing diplomatic war.

Egypt, which leads Arab opposition to Iraq, also reported that its military attaché, two aides and two counsellors have been expelled from Baghdad.

Baghdad-based diplomats said the ambassadors of 11 EC countries were summoned to the Iraqi Foreign Ministry Thursday night and told that their military attaches and their aides have seven days to leave the country.

They said no reason was provided, but that the Iraqi authorities apparently were retaliating for the expulsion of Iraqi diplomats and citizens from European countries.

The diplomats said they believed some 50 attaches and aides were included in the expulsion order, noting that France's embassy took the brunt of the Iraqi wrath.

Eleven members of the French embassy's staff, including the military attaché, were told to leave.

A British diplomat said: "Our

Ambassador (Harold Walker) and the EC ambassadors were summoned to the Foreign Ministry last night and told that their military attaches and other military officers have to leave within seven days.

"The head of the consular department at the Foreign Ministry also told them that Iraq was restricting the movement of all diplomats at these embassies to 25 square miles" (65 square kilometres) of the centre Baghdad.

"It was predictable but entirely unjustified... this is just retaliation," British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said.

London had earlier ordered eight Iraqi embassy staff and 23 civilians to leave by Sept. 25, and Friday announced that all new Iraqi students were banned from entering Britain.

In Rome, the Foreign Ministry said Iraq had given Italy's military attaché and three of his staff 10 days to leave Baghdad, in retaliation for its expulsion Sunday of Iraqi military personnel and ban on embassy members moving outside the Italian capital.

Spain, which has not yet expelled any Iraqi diplomats but which

## Curfew in Gaza after Israeli soldier's death

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Israeli soldier was killed in a violent protest by Palestinians on the first day of the Jewish new year after his car hit a donkey cart and injured two brothers in a Gaza Strip refugee camp, the army command said Friday.

The Gaza Strip commander Shmuel Zucker, said the soldier was on his way Thursday to join his unit in the Gaza Strip when he "apparently accidentally entered Bureij refugee camp."

Zucker told Israel's army radio that the soldier's car was stoned and added: "As he continued to drive he collided with a donkey cart, apparently because of the stoning, wounding the two youths on the cart."

The commander said the car then got stuck.

"The stoning continued and during the stoning the soldier was killed," Zucker said.

The Palestinians then set the car ablaze. The soldier's charred body was recovered from the burned vehicle, the army spokesman's office said.

The soldier was the 12th to die in the Palestinian uprising.

Israel's ruling party sought to recall parliament from its new year break Friday after the incident.

Israel Radio said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud party appeared likely to get the 20 member's signatures needed to recall the house to debate the death.

Agriculture Minister Rafail Eitan, a former chief of staff and representative of a far-right political party in government, said the soldier's killers should be expelled from Israel and all buildings at the scene blown up as punishment.

Troops clamped a curfew on the Bureij and Rafah refugee camps in Gaza and arrested more than 100 people at Bureij Friday as they searched for suspects, residents said.

The violence follows a period of relative quiet in the Gaza Strip.

An army spokesman, who cannot be identified by name under military rules, said he believed the soldier was in uniform at the time of the Thursday incident.

The army spokesman could not explain what a soldier was doing driving alone in a civilian car

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# Hrawi signs reforms, warns Aoun

BEIRUT (Agencies) — President Elias Hrawi signed into law Friday political reforms giving Muslims an equal share of power with the long-dominant Christians in a bid to resolve Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war.

Hrawi's move was aimed at speeding up implementation of an Arab League-brokered peace plan that has been stalled because of opposition from rebel General Michel Aoun.

In a speech at the signing ceremony, Hrawi urged Aoun to "peacefully join the process of ending the civil war."

But he warned the general that if he did not, "I will be forced to take the bitter decision of resorting to an imperative surgical operation" to crush Aoun's forces in the Christian enclave.

There was no immediate response from Aoun, whose dwind-

ling force of around 15,000 mainly Christian troops hold pockets in east Beirut and the nearby Metn mountains after a power struggle with Christian militia chief Samir Geagea.

Hrawi declared that a new government, comprising representatives of the main factions, will soon be formed "to end the civil war, dissolve various militias, reestablish state authority over all Lebanese territory and shore up the economy."

Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss and Parliament Speaker Hussein Al Husseini attended Friday's signing ceremony at Hrawi's temporary headquarters in the seaside ramlet Al Baida district of west Beirut.

Until now, the traditionally dominant Maronite Catholics, the main Christian sect, have held key posts in the government.

army and judiciary under an unwritten agreement dating from Lebanon's independence from France in 1943.

At that time, the Christians were deemed to be the majority. But now Muslims make up an estimated 55 per cent of the four million population.

The reforms were embodied in constitutional amendments that vest executive powers in Lebanon's council of ministers, stripping the president of the exclusive right to take major decisions.

The cabinet and parliament will now contain equal numbers of Muslims and Christians, eliminating the 6-5 edge the Christians maintained in both bodies since independence.

However, a formula of having a Maronite president, a Sunni prime minister and Shiite parliament speaker will remain.

The Muslims have been demanding an equal share of power since the civil war broke out in 1975.

The reforms were originally worked out by Lebanon's legislators when they met in the Saudi Arabian resort town of Taif in August last year to endorse the Arab League plan.

Aoun has rejected the Taif accord and refuses to recognise the Syrian-backed Hrawi, who was elected in November to oversee implementation of the peace plan.

Aoun, a Maronite like Hrawi, says the peace accord does not contain cast-iron guarantees that the 40,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon will be withdrawn.

He claims they are an army of occupation. The Syrians entered Lebanon in 1976 with an Arab League peacekeeping mandate.

They control about 70 per cent of Lebanon.

Hrawi's government clamped an economic blockade on Aoun's enclave in July, banning money transfers and fuel supplies to his area of influence in an attempt to force him into submission.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 soldiers and officers from Aoun's army have since defected to Hrawi. They joined the president's 20,000-man army.

Those forces, commanded by Gen. Emile Lahoud, have taken up combat positions along Beirut's dividing green line and on the major highways into Aoun's zone in recent weeks.

Hrawi's defence minister, Albert Mansour, has warned that a military operation might be needed to evict the rebel general from the shell-wrecked presidential palace at Baabda.

## British forces could be put under U.S. command in Gulf

WASHINGTON (R) — British troops ordered to the Gulf could be put under U.S. military "tactical control" but would not join any offensive against Iraqi forces without consulting Saudi Arabia and other nations, according to British Defence Secretary Tom King.

King, following meetings with U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney and Secretary of State James Baker, stressed that Saudi Arabia must have final say on any action launched from its territory.

"You can't see things happening without the agreement of the host nation," he told reporters, adding that U.S. and British officials were drawing a command and control plan for defensive forces in Saudi Arabia and would discuss it with Saudi officials.

King said British warships, aircraft and armoured brigade of some 6,000 troops and over 100 tanks would be under ultimate authority from London, but with much larger U.S. forces in the area. "Then obviously they could well be under American tactical control."

He told a news conference at the British embassy that no decision had been made on a command structure, but that it was a key issue because U.S., British, French and Western forces were now in the region in addition to Arab troops.

Questions have arisen in Washington over control of about 115,000 U.S. troops now on the ground in Saudi Arabia in the case of fighting. But Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said Thursday that the matter had apparently been settled between U.S. and Saudi officials.

"I think they are very confident that they have worked out," he said.

King and Sir David Craig, Britain's senior military officer, met at the Pentagon with Cheney and General Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. military Joint Chiefs of Staff.

King will meet with White House National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft Tuesday before flying home to London. He again stressed that both London and Washington wanted to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait.

"The question of ending this by peaceful means is to make it clear to (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein that he has no other option than to get out of Kuwait," he said.

Williams also confirmed earlier statements by British defence sources that there were no plans to shoot down aircraft in any air embargo which the United Nations might approve to beef up U.N. trade sanctions against Baghdad.

"I am unaware of any planning at the (U.S.) Defence Department to shoot planes down or anything of that sort," Williams said.

King said an embargo would include such measures as denying airspace and overflight rights to aircraft believed to be carrying cargo to Iraq. Attempts would also be made to stop such flights at the source, he said.

"The question of interdiction is very low down the line," he told reporters.

## Kuwaiti opposition leaders want talks on self-determination

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of political parties and prominent personalities from Kuwait, who are now either in Kuwait or abroad, have been holding contacts to meet and discuss the situation in the Gulf.

A report in Al Ra'i daily said that most of these personalities were members of the Kuwaiti opposition parties representing leftists, Nasserites, Marxists and progressive groups or independents like Ahmad Al Khatib, Jassem Qatami, Ahmad Al Rabai, Ahmad Al Nafisi, and Sami Al Manis.

The paper said they had agreed that there should be a complete withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf and Saudi Arabia and an Iraqi pull out from Kuwait.

The paper said that these opposition groups demanded that the Kuwaitis be given the right to self-determination and choose the type of rule they wish, and retain special relationship with Iraq.

According to the paper, the opposition groups do not want to see Al Sabah family back in Kuwait since the Kuwaiti people refuse their rule.

With regard to the so called popular meeting called for by Al Sabah family to be held in Taif, Saudi Arabia, the paper said that the opposition groups had decided to boycott this meeting as they consider the Taif parley as one of Al Sabah family and not representing the grassroots of the Kuwaiti people.

The paper said that the Kuwait opposition bloc would continue its contacts with prominent Kuwaiti personalities like university professors and people representing various political orientations to pave the way for a national action that would safeguard the Kuwaiti people's interests.

## Islamic mediation team heads for Baghdad

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Islamic delegation has left for Baghdad to discuss the Gulf crisis and to try to end differences among Arab and Muslim countries.

The delegation, which was formed by the World Islamic Conference that convened in Amman recently, had just returned here from a visit to Jeddah where its members met with King Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia to discuss a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

A spokesman for the delegation was quoted by Al Ra'i Arabic daily as saying that the Saudi monarch had briefed them on the developments in the Gulf and said he was optimistic about a peaceful solution to the crisis.

According to the group's spokesman, the king promised that he will do all he can to see to it that a solution for the crisis will be implemented within the Arab and Islamic framework.

## Arm the people — Fakhri Kawar

KARAK (J.T.) — Parliament Deputy Fakhri Kawar has called on the government to supply Jordanians with arms to enable them to take an active role in defence of the country in case of external aggression.

Addressing a public rally held in Karak in solidarity with the Iraqi and Palestinian people, Kawar said that defending Palestine and Iraq in the face of aggression starts from Jordan, and that people cannot fight the enemy from a distance, by merely watching the developments or by making speeches.

He said that the Jordanian people are ready to go without food for the sake of obtaining arms to defend Jordan and to help the Iraqi and Palestinian people deal with aggression.

He said that Jordanians should

be given the opportunity to take part in evicting the Zionists and the Americans from Arab land.

Another Parliament deputy, Mahmoud Hweimel told the rally that the invasion of the Gulf region by the U.S.-led forces was part of a conspiracy directed against Iraq and Arab and Muslim people.

The rally, organised by two committees set up to gather support for the Iraqi and Palestinian people, was addressed by several speakers, all launching attacks on the United States and its allies lined against the Iraqi people.

They called for "unity of Arab ranks in the face of the invaders." Among the speakers were a number of poets who recited verses of their poetry which praised the heroic stands of the Palestinian and Iraqi people.

## U.S. networks undecided over broadcasting Saddam's message

NEW YORK (R) — Major U.S. news networks said Thursday they had not yet been approached about airing a taped message by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and had not decided whether they would broadcast it.

Saddam taped a message for the American people on Thursday, following Iraq's airing of a tape by U.S. President George Bush.

Iraqi officials said Thursday that negotiations were under way to get Saddam's tape on U.S. television.

"We haven't been approached yet, and we'll cross that bridge when we get to it," Arnot Walker, spokesman for ABC, told Reuters.

Cable News Network released a statement saying: "In principle, CNN is prepared to broadcast the Saddam Hussein statement in its

entirety as CNN has done with previous President Saddam statements."

But it added that CNN would make a final decision after learning more about the "content and duration" of the tape.

Spokesman at both CNN and NBC said they had not been approached about the tape, and as far as they knew no other media had.

The United States told Iraq's ambassador Thursday that Saddam would have to make his own arrangements to broadcast a taped message on American television because "we don't have a state-controlled media."

State Department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler said Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly, in a meeting with Iraqi envoy Mohammad Al Mashat, had noted "that we don't have a

state-controlled media, that we have a free media here, that they were free to give to our media anything they wanted to."

White House spokesman Roman Popadiuk also said the U.S. government would simply pass any such Iraqi tape along to the news media, adding: "Saddam Hussein has had more than adequate access to the airwaves... to get his message across to the American public."

The broadcast tapes gambit began when Bush sent a video message to the Iraqi people last week giving his view of the Gulf crisis.

Iraq broadcast the Bush tape last Sunday along with immediate rebuttals of it. The Bush tape arose from U.S. complaints that Saddam is often seen on U.S. television news.

## Jordan switches to winter time

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will switch back to winter time on Friday Sept. 28, not on Oct. 5, 1990 as was earlier announced according to a statement issued by the prime minister's office Thursday.

The statement said that on 12 midnight on Thursday Sept. 27, all clocks will be turned back 60 minutes so that time in Jordan will be two hours ahead of GMT.

Summer time started this year on April 26 on the second day of Eid Al Fitr.

Another communique issued by the prime minister's office Thursday banned all ministries from opening accounts at Jordanian banks in foreign currency. The statement said that numerous ministries and official government departments have been found keeping accounts in foreign currency at local banks and that these accounts were being fed through loans coming from outside sources to finance local development projects.

Since the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) is the only official department that has been entrusted with supplying Jordan with foreign currency to cover the purchases of various products for the state, there is no need for any other department to retain accounts in foreign currency in Jordan, the statement pointed out. The prime minister's statement ordered all ministries and government departments to close all foreign currency accounts and to transfer these accounts to the CBJ as soon as possible.

## Egyptian party urges Arab solution in Gulf

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, which is considering a further increase in the size of its force defending Saudi Arabia, has been helping ferry Syrian troops and tanks there, defence and shipping sources said.

Egypt and Syria, at odds until last December over Cairo's peace treaty with Israel, decided to boost their presence in Saudi Arabia after U.S. Secretary of State James Baker visited both countries earlier this month.

Shipping sources said on Thursday Egyptian vessels, including the warship Al Zafir, had been transporting Syrian troops and heavy armour to the Saudi Red Sea port of Yanbu for the previous three days.

Syria, arch Arab rival of Iraq

## Palestinian children march in support of Iraq

BAQAA — About 2,000 Palestinian children marched through a ramshackle refugee camp near Amman on Friday to protest at the economic blockade of Iraq and pledge their support for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Save the children of Iraq from the military siege led by America and which deprives millions of children of food and medicine," read one placard held by a 10-year-old girl.

The children carried posters of Saddam and of Palestine Liberation Organisation Leader Yasser Arafat, through the narrow, winding streets of Baqaa, Jordan's largest Palestinian camp. Several children, carried by

their parents, waved flags of Palestine, Iraq, and Jordan. Others had ribbons in their hair with the colours of the flags — black, red, white and green.

A two-year-old boy dressed in army fatigues sat on his father's shoulder waving a Palestinian flag. Teenagers, faces wrapped in Palestinian chequered scarves, made victory signs.

An international armada has assembled in the Gulf to enforce the blockade.

"Yes, we support the Iraqi children and we greet Saddam," said Rana, a 12-year-old Palestinian girl marching with her younger sister. "Don't they deserve to live?"

## Yemen protests Saudi measures

SANAA (J.T.) — The Yemeni government has condemned measures taken by Saudi Arabia abolishing facilities previously extended to Yemeni nationals inside Saudi Arabia and said that Yemen has the right to take whatever steps it deems necessary to protect the interests of its people.

A statement issued in Sanaa at the end of a cabinet meeting said that nearly one million Yemenis living and working in Saudi Arabia were Wednesday denied the right of residing in the Kingdom except after obtaining a visa, and have been denied the right to deal in trade inside Saudi Arabian territory, except after obtaining a Saudi government approval. Such privileges, the statement said, had been granted to the Yemeni nationals all their life, and their cancellation now is bound to cause severe damage to those nationals who had been instrumental in building Saudi Arabia, the Sanaa statement noted.

The Yemeni government called on the Saudi authorities to reconsider the new measures in a bid to

"safeguard the close brotherly and historical relations between Yemen and Saudi Arabia."

Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh sent a message to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia regarding Yemeni-Saudi ties and underlining the importance of maintaining good relations between the two countries under any circumstances, according to Agence France Presse.

The agency quoted Yemeni government sources in Sanaa as saying that, should the new measures against the Yemeni nationals be implemented many Yemenis would not be able to return to Saudi Arabia to resume their work there, a step which would impose a heavy financial burden on Yemen.

The agency quoted Yemeni officials as saying that Yemeni nationals working in the Gulf countries and Saudi Arabia normally transfer \$2 billion in remittances to their home country. They said nearly 30,000 Yemenis who used to work in Kuwait have now returned home.

## Bangladeshis back from Kuwait ready to fight Iraq

DHAKA (R) — Bangladeshi airmen and other servicemen who returned from Kuwait offered Friday to fight against Iraq.

"We are fully trained and have a lot of desert experience. If needed, we are ready to fight against the aggressors," said Aminur Rahman Mukul, a pilot who worked for the Kuwaiti air

force before Iraq invaded Aug. 2. "We are planning to make a formal offer in this regard to the Bangladesh government," he told Reuters.

The returned servicemen were holding a meeting Friday of the Bangladesh Association in Kuwait, a body created to protect the rights of expatriate workers.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 772111-19

### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Koran  
15:40 ..... Programme review  
15:45 ..... Children programme  
17:30 ..... Educational programme  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:10 ..... Local programme  
19:30 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... Programme review  
21:50 ..... Local programme  
22:00 ..... News in Arabic  
23:10 ..... Arabic play

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:05 ..... Documentary  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Aujourd'hui en France  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
21:00 ..... Encounter  
21:30 ..... Classical music  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 Feature film: "The Honourable Thief"

### PRAYER TIMES

05:01 ..... Fajr  
06:29 ..... (Sunrise) Dhah  
12:18 ..... Dhuhr  
15:56 ..... 'Asr  
18:29 ..... Maghrib  
19:56 ..... 'Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetith, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 657785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 657440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622346  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 683326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811595  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
Slight rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be northeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 15 / 32

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Khaled Taif ..... 743500  
Dr. Jamal Turi ..... 794710  
Dr. Khaldoun Klob ..... 829919  
Dr. Mohammed Al Sawra ..... 732056  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nawafal pharmacy ..... 626762  
Al Salan pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisan pharmacy ..... 637600  
DRBD:  
Dr. Amjad Obaidat ..... (—)  
Al Shams pharmacy ..... (985239)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Tareq Hijawi ..... (—)  
Khalaf pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630221  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (Directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 070230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813812/22  
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 644281/6  
Al-Zeh Maternity, J. Amn ..... 64341/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642562  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 634140  
Palestine, Shmeisan ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisan Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 645845  
Al-Musayyid Hospital ..... 667279  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/57  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Inkash, Al-Mubajra ..... 771013/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashraf ..... 775111/26  
Army, Marfa ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 62240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674135  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)991071  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
05:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
10:45 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Agila (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
10:30 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Bahrain (RJ)  
10:35 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ..... 600 / 450  
Banana ..... 300 / 450  
Banana (Mikamun) ..... 250 / 400  
Beans ..... 300 / 320  
Cabbage ..... 120 / 80  
Carrot ..... 250 / 200  
Cauliflower ..... 250 / 200  
Corn ..... 200 / 150  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 140 / 100  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 200 / 250  
Eggplant ..... 190 / 170  
Fig ..... 400 / 350  
Garlic ..... 800 / 700  
Grapes ..... 350 / 250  
Lemon ..... 250 / 150  
Mallow ..... 120 / 80  
Marrow (large) ..... 140 / 100  
Marrow (small) ..... 250 / 200  
Onion (dry) ..... 220 / 180  
Orange ..... 450 / 400  
Olea ..... 600 / 500  
Peas ..... 250 / 180  
Pepper (hot) ..... 600 / 500  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 250 / 150  
Potato ..... 250 / 300  
Radish ..... 150 / 100  
Sage ..... 250 / 500  
Sweet melon ..... 220 / 250  
Tomatoes ..... 150 / 110  
Watermelon ..... 190 / 150

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
14:00 ..... Bahrain (GF)  
14:05 ..... Cairo (MS)



## Arab solution to Gulf crisis remains the ideal solution—Soviet ambassador

AMMAN (J.T.) — Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Yuri Stepanovich Thursday said that an Arab solution to the Gulf crisis remained the ideal solution.

In a lecture delivered at the American University of Beirut Alumni Club, Stepanovich said the Soviet Union opposed any individual steps to defuse the crisis, but supported U.N. efforts in this regard.

The ambassador warned that a war in the region would be catastrophic and called for intensified U.N. efforts to end the conflict. He stressed that all military presence in the Gulf should come under the U.N. umbrella.

He said that most world nations agree with the Soviet Union that the sanctions against Iraq, passed by the Security Council, must be adhered to.

The ambassador reiterated his country's position that opposes Iraq's annexation of Kuwait and the use of military force. He said the possibility of avoiding war was still there and a political settlement should not be discarded.

Speaking about Sept. 9 Helsinki summit between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Stepanovich said the Americans and the Soviets discussed the military presence in the Gulf region "that worries the Arabs."

"I believe Washington has no intention to keep a military presence in the region after the conflict is solved," the Soviet envoy said.

"The Helsinki meeting has resulted in tangible results that would create the right atmosphere to surpass the crisis," he said.

He said that although many believe a war was inevitable, his country was calling for self-restraint and avoiding all that would lead to escalating the confrontation.

The Soviet Union has called for an international conference on the Middle East, he said.

Many in the international community believe that there is a linkage between the region's conflicts, he added.

He said that there ought to be

solutions to all the region's problems, including the Palestine issue.

Stepanovich said that the Soviet Union abided by international law and the U.N. Charter and if the Gulf crisis were solved accordingly, other issues could be solved the same way, including the Palestine problem.

He said that the Soviet Union believed in equality among world nations, large and small, and that the Soviet Union no more subscribes to the contention of "superpowers," because that gives certain nations the authority to force their will on others.

He said his country realised that the Arab peoples needed the Soviets in their struggle for their rights, and especially the Palestinians. Conversely, he said, the Soviet Union needs Arab peoples' support.

He said that all nations would lose in case of war, including the Soviet Union.

Stepanovich said his country would support all resolutions passed by the U.N. in case of a Middle East international peace

## Children to demand protection

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian children meeting in Amman Friday in a mini-summit at the initiative of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) appealed to His Majesty King Hussein to attend the World Summit for Children, due to convene in New York on Sept. 29 and 30, and to relay their recommendations to the attending world leaders.

During the summit, Nigel Fisher, UNICEF's representative in Jordan, delivered a speech that outlined the children's rights to education, health and peace in what he called the "principle of first call." He also urged Jordanian children who attended the mini-summit to make their voices heard by the leaders of the 70 nations gathering at the United Nations headquarters in New York, on Sept. 29, to discuss children's rights.

and well-being, in their nutrition and normal growth, in their health and education, in their rights and in their future," Fisher said.

He added that costs for setting up children's programme amount to \$2.5 billion annually. "This amount might seem to be a lot, but it's not, it's only 1 per cent of what poor countries spend on arms. It is how much the Soviet Union spends on vodka every month, and what American companies spend each year on cigarettes' advertisement," Fisher said.

Taking part in Friday's summit were about 100 children coming from private schools, Ministry of Education schools and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) schools. The children were divided into groups with adult moderators to discuss the upcoming World Summit for Children and the message they would like to send to the leaders at the summit.

Address a message to the United States President George Bush calling on him to find a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis, thus avoiding the humanitarian catastrophic consequences of a futile war, and enabling the children to live in peace. The children reminded that it was not only the Arab children who will be victimised by a potential war, but also the American and West European children, because "of war breaks out thousands of them will lose their fathers or brothers."

Avoiding the double standards when dealing with causes of children, and giving them equal treatment without any discrimination when it comes to implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Giving children priority in any society and enacting special laws and legislation providing for protecting children at all times and in all places.

Directing special attention and care to the children living in difficult circumstances such as the Palestinian, Iraqi, Lebanese and Sudanese children.

Keeping children away from any regional or international disputes or conflicts and giving them the priority they deserve when taking the political decisions or allocating funds.

Calling on the world children to stand by the children of

Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq, and urging their governments to lift the economic blockade on Iraq which is leaving the hardest effects on the children who are usually the first victims.

Appealing to the world leaders to sign and ratify the international agreements on the non-proliferation of nuclear arms.

Providing free indiscriminate basic education to all children, and linking education with the needs of society.

Increasing the educational allocations, when drawing up budgets, and providing a proper educational atmosphere.

Calling on the international community to put an end to the arbitrary Israeli measures against educational institutions in the occupied Arab territories, and making whatever necessary arrangements to ensure that schooling is not disrupted frequently.

Setting up a special fund for education, whereby rich countries contribute to the education of children in the poor countries.

Appealing to the world leaders to provide low-cost drugs and food for children of the developing world, and enacting special provisions allowing for the supply of food and medicine to Iraqi children.

Calling on the U.N. organisations operating in Jordan, particularly UNRWA and UNICEF, to forge closer cooperation in setting up more health centres in the poor and remote areas, and to contribute to improving the services in the refugee camps in Jordan.

Stressing the need for large scale promotion of health education material, particularly that related to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), drug abuse, addiction.

Urging the world countries to provide more aid to developing countries, to help provide clean water and sanitation thus contributing to protecting the environment and prevent the frequent incidence of diseases.

## Abdullah leads Jordan's team to World Bank meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to a meeting by the World Bank due in Washington on Sept. 25 and said in a statement that Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah will lead the delegation in his capacity as member of the World Bank's governing council.

Abdullah Thursday met French Ambassador to Jordan Denis Bauchard to discuss France's technical and capital assistance to Jordan.

The two officials discussed in particular a French loan sche-

duled to be given to Jordan to help the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) to finance its fertiliser project in Aqaba.

Bauchard explained to the minister the French aid programme extending help to the Kingdom to deal with evacuees either directly or through the European Community (EC).

The ambassador stressed that his government was exerting all possible efforts to provide Jordan with financial assistance to help it carry out its development projects.

The minister on Thursday discussed Jordan's economic and trade ties with Romania's Ambassador to Jordan Dimitrie Stanesco.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the two officials discussed subjects to be taken up at a meeting by the joint Jordanian-Romanian economic committee which is due to convene here in November. Jordan's phosphate exports to Romania, said the agency, was also discussed at the meeting.

## Arar accuses U.S. of interfering in Jordan's affairs

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Suleiman Arar has denounced statements by U.S. officials attacking a meeting held in Amman last week by representatives of popular movements in the Arab World as an interference in Jordan's internal affairs.

Arar was quoted by Al Ra'i Arabic daily as saying that the U.S. administration chose to deplore the meeting in Amman instead of abstaining from committing actions hostile against the Arab Nation.

"Any Arab person has the right to ask about the U.S. Administration's actions vis-a-vis the Arab countries, like its continued support for Israel and its continued supply of arms to the Israeli forces to kill Arab people in Palestine," Arar was quoted as saying.

Arar said that the United States was continually supplying modern technology and expertise to Israel in addition to funds which come directly from the American treasury or from the Jewish organisations in the United States.

He said that the United States had been supporting Israel's aggressive actions in violation of human rights and protecting Israel's actions with its veto at the U.N. Security Council meetings. "No American has the right to interfere in Jordan's affairs and criticise the convening here of meetings which deplore the actions, directed against the Arab Nation, of the United States or other countries," Arar added.

He said: "We live in a democratic country which called for a popular meeting to be held in a democratic manner and to be attended by representatives of various political groups, unlike those meeting held in the United States which are only attended by officials."

Further, Fisher expressed his surprise at the lightning speed with which countries can collect billions of dollars in times of conflict, but show their staggering inability when it comes to saving the lives of millions of children all over the world who are suffering from famines, wars or natural disasters.

"...there will be a range of practicable opportunities, which now exist, for making drastic improvements in the lives of the new generation — improvements in their survival."

## Scramble in market for Kuwaiti dinars

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Black market dealers are hunting for Kuwaiti dinars in the Jordanian market, and the fierce race to make quick money has led to the currency by 50 per cent in the black market over the past four days, banking circles said Friday.

"There is an intense quest in the parallel market for Kuwaiti dinars," said a senior source at a leading commercial bank. "Some of those black market dealers have even approached the commercial banks to find out whether they were selling Kuwaiti dinars at a price of one to one, as the arrangement was in the initial days" after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2, the source said. "Some even offered to pay more," he said.

The sudden demand for Kuwaiti dinars is seen by many as a result of the brief opening of the Kuwaiti-Saudi border which could have allowed the entry of Kuwaiti dinars into Saudi Arabia despite intense searches at the border checkpoint by the Iraqis. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emi-

rates (UAE) are the only countries which accept Kuwaiti dinars at the pre-invasion exchange rates of nearly \$3.2 to every dinar.

Ten days after the invasion, the Iraqi authorities merged the currencies of the two countries, announcing that the Kuwaiti dinar and the Iraqi dinar had the same exchange value. In theory, it meant that one Kuwaiti dinar was worth \$3.2 in line with the Iraqi-set official exchange value for its own Iraqi dinar, but in practice it meant that the Kuwaiti currency had lost 88 per cent of its value in the open market.

The modus operandi of black market dealers is simple: buy the Kuwaiti dinars for prices as much as JD 1.5 each from foreigners, mostly Asians, arriving in Jordan from Kuwait, then physically transfer the cash to Saudi Arabia, where they could get around JD 2.2 from several banks.

The "purchase" price for Kuwaiti dinars in the black market was between 800 fils and one dinar two weeks back, but it reached as much as JD 1.5 by Thursday, according to banking officials who keep a

close tab on the market. "There also appeared to be a panic among buyers to acquire as many Kuwaiti dinars as possible after the ousted Kuwaiti regime announced that it was planning to resume Kuwait Airways operations from Cairo," said an official.

"This is sure to pose a problem for the Kuwait Airways officials in Cairo," he noted. "On the one hand, they cannot but accept Kuwaiti dinars at pre-invasion exchange rates as payment for Kuwait Airways tickets; if they reject Kuwaiti dinars then the entire question of the legitimacy of Kuwait Airways and the claims of the ousted regime will be questioned. But, on the other hand, they will be left with almost worthless currency anywhere except Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates," he noted.

Asians arriving from Kuwait said despite the "devaluation" of the Kuwaiti dinar, the "current rate" in Kuwait was 16 to 18 Kuwaiti dinars to every 100 Iraqi dinars against the "official" price of one to one. Pre-invasion rate was 12 Kuwaiti dinars to 100 Iraqi dinars, they noted.

## Brotherhood thanks Iran

AMMAN (Petra) — Muslim Brotherhood members of parliament have sent a cable to the Iranian leadership paying tribute to Iran's stand with regard to the Gulf crisis. The deputies said they had confidence in the Tehran's policies, especially during the critical circumstances the Arabs and the Muslims are facing now and said that the United States was leading world forces and massing weapons of destruction to destroy the Islamic awakening and to impose hegemony on the Islamic countries.

The cable particularly praised Tehran's declaration of a holy war against the foreign invaders

and its announcement that it will not allow the Iraqi people to starve or to be subjugated to foreign will.

Your brotherly stand has been met with deep pride and appreciation by all the faithful Muslims worldwide, though such declaration displeased those who conspired against the Muslim nation and its prophet the cable said.

The cable denounced attempts by certain elements which it said are trying to persuade Iran to change its position. It said that the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan is confident that Tehran would not allow such attempts to succeed.

## EC, U.S. send aid for evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Commission of the European Communities has since Aug. 22, 1990, provided a total of \$26.6 million in grants to relieve evacuees entering Jordan from Kuwait and Iraq. In addition member states have co-financed with the Commission another \$2.2 million for emergency aid bringing the total to \$28.8 million. The measures undertaken so far have virtually fully utilised the grants made available. The major activities are given hereunder:

a. Repatriation of people from Amman, Aqaba, Ankara and Cairo, in co-financing with other donors through the International Organisation for Migration and with the World Lutheran Federation. The contribution of the Commission amounts to \$17.5 million. The arrangements for an air bridge have made provisions for the evacuation of some 70,000 people, including about 36,000 Egyptians by bus, plane and ferry boat, some 22,000 Bangladeshis by plane and some 11,000 Filipinos and Sri Lankans by plane.

b. The evacuation of 20,000 Pakistanis from Kuwait to Amman supported with a grant of \$1.7 million.

c. The provision of various supplies such as tents, blankets, food, as well as personnel working inside Jordan, for about \$4 million.

d. Food aid (\$4.2 million) comprising 9,000 tonnes of wheat, 500 tonnes of vegetable oil, 200 tonnes milk powder, 500 tonnes rice and 200 tonnes of lentils.

The measures aimed at providing immediate support for the evacuees in Jordan are carried out by:

— International Committee of the Red Cross/Jordan National Red Crescent Society: co-financing of \$1 million including the provision of 4 planes, transportation, tents, blankets and medicine.

— Medecins Sans Frontieres (\$0.6 million) for the provision of tents, plastic sheets, blankets and medical teams.

— Medecins Du Monde (\$1.7 million for the supply of medicine, shelter material, sanitation equipment.

— The Jordanian Crisis Committee has been supported with a total of \$1.7 million for the purchase of food on the local market and for the payment of local transport of the evacuees from the border to the transit camps and to the airports.

## WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

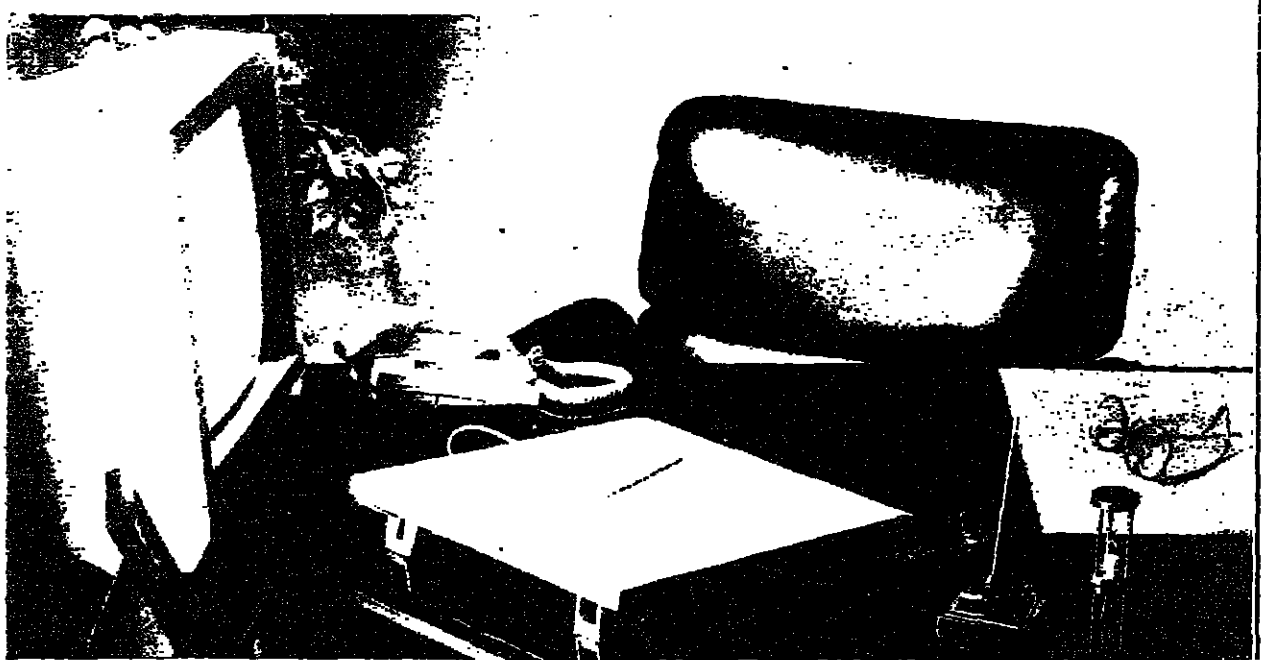
\* Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

\* Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.

## THEATRE

\* Shakespeare's play "King Lear" will be shown at the British Council at 5:00 p.m.

## Wang The Perfect Business Solution



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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Established 1975

الصحف اليومية الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

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Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation.

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## U.S. initiatives blunted; resonance felt here

PRESIDENT George Bush has suffered two setbacks in the last few days right on his own turf. One was the U.S. Congress' rebuff of his pledge to write off Egypt's multi-billion dollar debt to his country, and the other his lawmakers' opposition to his plans to strike a proposed \$20 billion arms deal with Saudi Arabia. Israel's hidden hand was behind the Congress' rejection of at least one of the two deals. A third setback might have been a warning by U.S. Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan that Washington's type of reaction to the Gulf crisis is wreaking havoc with the U.S. economy.

These U.S. domestic developments suggest, at a minimum, two things: First, Bush has no longer a carte blanche to do as he sees fit in the Gulf region; second, the U.S. chief executive may have begun to feel the pinch in his own backyard and is trying therefore to precipitate something in the Gulf area in order to reverse the growing opposition to his free hand in handling the Kuwaiti situation and rally fresh support for his stance there. Accordingly, while Washington and its blind and obedient followers have pledged not to fire the first shot in the Gulf region, they could very well be planning to push Iraq to the wall in a desperate attempt to drive Baghdad into despair and start a shooting war that ostensibly the West tried so hard to avoid. If this fails, the West may be banking on the depletion of the patience of the Iraqi people in which case there would be no need for a confrontation. The unprecedented proliferation of U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Kuwaiti situation culminating for the time being in a resolution projected to be adopted in a matter of days and aiming to extend the scope of the boycott against Iraq to cover air transport is nothing but an attempt to strangle Iraq and force it to submit or fire the first shot. Presumably, Iraq is aware of this Western-oriented strategy and would try to outwit the West in its own game by proving that the endurance and patience of Iraq and its people are inexhaustible.

For sure the West will think of other forms of pressure on Iraq, including the severing of diplomatic and cultural relations in order to push Iraq into a tight corner. But it will do that in anticipation of an Iraqi counter-move which can be seen as an act of war against the West by the Iraqis. If, however, Iraq keeps its cool, as it well knows the name of the game, then the only other option left for all sides is to seek a sensible peaceful resolution of the conflict. Every other alternative is simply too catastrophic, too crazy to even contemplate.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday described a draft resolution to be discussed by the U.N. Security Council for imposing an air embargo on Iraq as a flagrant aggression on all Arabs and one that is bound to escalate tension to the explosion point. The paper said, instead of giving a chance to the U.N. secretary general's peace initiatives and instead of accepting Saddam Hussein's peace initiatives to end the problems of the Middle East, the Security Council which is now under the U.S. hegemony is trying to escalate tension which could lead to war in the Gulf region. London and Washington should have waited and should have given a chance to the peace mediators before embarking on a hostile action like this, and before forcing the Security Council to impose an air embargo on Iraq, said the paper. The new move on the part of the Western world against Iraq came at a time when the Iraqi president announced his readiness to receive U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in Baghdad for talks on the Gulf crisis and at a time when Arab leaders were involved in intensive consultations to find a political solution, the paper added. London and Washington, said the paper, should realise that an air embargo which could be hidden under the veil of the Security Council, forms a flagrant aggression on the Arabs in general and Iraq in particular.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily says that the American-led invasion of the Gulf region will no doubt determine future inter-Arab relations since many of the Arab countries oppose the presence of foreign forces in the Gulf, but certain Arab states have supported it. Tareq Masarweh notes that those Arabs who aligned themselves with the American forces will be vanquished like those Arabs who backed the Israelis in their invasion of Lebanon in 1982. The writer notes that the 1982 invasion of Lebanon resulted in the downfall of Alexander Haig, the former U.S. secretary of state and Ariel Sharon the Israeli defence minister, while the American invasion of the Gulf has now led to the downfall of the commander of the American air force, even before a single shot was fired. On the whole, should a war break out in the Gulf, the whole Arab region will witness a drastic demographic and geographic change unparalleled in Arab history, the writer adds. Of course, the United States has been behind the whole affair and behind the tension created in our region by coercing Arab states, the Soviet Union and other nations into following her own steps, he notes. But he expresses confidence that the Iraqis and the Arab masses backing them will remain steadfast and will come out victorious.

Al Dastour Friday referred to the mini-Arab summit held in Rabat over the past two days involving the heads of state of Jordan, Morocco and Algeria. The summit reflects the intention of the Arab countries to give priority to peace mediation and to a political solution so as to avert conflict in the region, the paper noted. It said that the summit was a clear reply to moves by the United States and the NATO alliance to escalate tension in the region and to bring matters to a head. Jordan, Algeria and Morocco decided that the Arabs should not give up attempts for peace but to struggle to save the Arab region from catastrophe, the paper added. It said that Jordan which has been spearheading efforts for peace is determined to confront threats and escalation of tension with resolve to push away the dangers and avert all tension among the Arab sister states.

View from Amman

By Kamel Abu Jaber

## The engulfed intruder

IN Arabic we have a saying that asks: "What does the intruder want, to abscond with the grapes, or to fight with the night guard?"

What does the West want? Why are the French, British, Americans and other Western nations in such a belligerent mood? Surely, they cannot be more concerned about Kuwait, than we in the Arab World are. In Jordan, we have issued from the outset a clear statement of where we stand: against the acquisition of land by force, for the return of legitimacy to Kuwait, for the withdrawal of belligerent troops and their replacement by Arab forces and for a political solution within the Arab fold.

And yet, inspite of this clear position, the West is making itself believe that they care more than us about the fate of the Kuwaiti people and the stability of the region. Of

course, they are not saying that they have a specific scenario in their mind as to how the affairs of the area should be conducted. All of a sudden it appears as if we are the intruders and they are the indigenous people of the area. That oil, which they believe is by divine right to be theirs, was somehow misplaced by the forces of nature in our region and that, at best, we are no more than guards over it.

Strange logic; but then, the whole affair has caused many bizarre things to happen. The atmosphere is nothing short of an "oil-wellian" one with the drama so skillfully stage managed. The greatest lesson of this crisis is that, after all, it is true that some animals are more equal than others. I myself, have never seen, nor read in books, about so many wolves in sheep's clothing. It is enough to make one doubt

one's identity.

And in my mind's "wool gathering" I ruminate upon the terrible thought as to how can one identify the real wolves from the real sheep. Woolly thoughts are these that keep getting woollier as the crisis unfolds. Who, for God's sake is protecting who from what? If this sounds like war-bleating it is because the situation of the shifting sands is made foggy with each "Stealth" into our pasture.

While we agree with the principle of not annexing others' lands by force we question the methodology on at least two levels. The first is a moral one dealing with the well established double standard practised by the West, that is, at best, questionable. The second is the military option that seems to be performed by the West as well as the terms in which it is couched. Should the

question be asked of who has the right to throw stones? Who among all the parties concerned in the crisis is innocent and thus has the moral right to cast a stone?

As the scenario, prepared earlier, unfolds, the tone is also escalating in its belligerency. "Iraq will not be permitted to annex Kuwait... that is not a threat, or a boast, that's just the way it's going to be..." says President Bush. Is this the tone of a man in search of peace? Later he adds, "...I'm not rattling sabers. When I rattle a saber, the man (President Saddam Hussein) will know it..." And then he adds, "...Saddam Hussein will fail..."

What is going on here? Is this the presidential candidate who promised in his election campaign to bring about a "kinder, gentler world"? This hardening of the attitude, in-

deed the mental arteries is also one of the strangest by-product of this crisis. It makes one think that it is not the "grapes" that the intruder wants but to fight the "night guard," why?

Indeed why? When the oil is now secure and when the Western troops have not only returned in their colonial grandeur, but paid for by us as well. When the bases have come over ground and are now well established.

What is myth and what is reality? In looking over our desert sands, with its changing moods and mirages, its scorpions of all types below and above the ground and into the sea as well, one is struck by the strangeness of it all. What are the young boys from Montana, Mississippi, Surrey, the Loire Valley and the Abruzzi mountains doing in this strange landscape? Whose democracy are

they fighting for and what principles are involved? The myth of principle keeps imposing itself on the ugly reality of might makes right which continues to repel it to no avail. I must admit to the whole world that I stopped believing my eyes and ears. My sense of smell has already been dulled so long ago by the Western-Israeli arm that pulls olive trees from the ground, smashes babies' bones, beats women, demolishes homes and lays hostage an entire land and its people.

Our East is indeed a strange land. No one seems to be in the mood to think proper thought. But then this is the land of prophecy, great ideas and great passions. One thing, however, seems to be quite sure which is reputed to be the sum total of all wisdom: "This too shall pass."

## What is a democracy?

By Olivier Lord

During the recent events in East European countries, several of these states expressed the desire (which is, for some of them, taking shape) to transform their political regime into a liberal democracy, like those existing in Western countries.

What are the essential foundations and the major characteristics enabling a political regime (be it a republic or a parliamentary monarchy) to be described as democratic and thereby the opposite of absolute monarchies, tyrannies, people's monarchies and military dictatorships?

First of all, a democratic regime must ensure that the greatest number of people participate in public matters. In other words, a democracy must practise universal suffrage. It should, moreover, be noted that the

proportion of the total population called to vote has continued to increase with time. Today, the right to vote is not reserved for men only and for people paying taxes alone, as used to be the custom. At the same time, the voting age has often been brought down. These electoral consultations also have to be organised regularly and take place by means of a secret ballot, so that no pressure can be brought to bear and influence results.

But the right to vote must also be accompanied by a real power of decision on the way matters are conducted in the country. The people thus have to be able to wield the power of "having the last word" in the framework of elections which have to bear real stakes and not just the semblance of participation.

Moreover, the existence of a liberal spirit is necessary for the

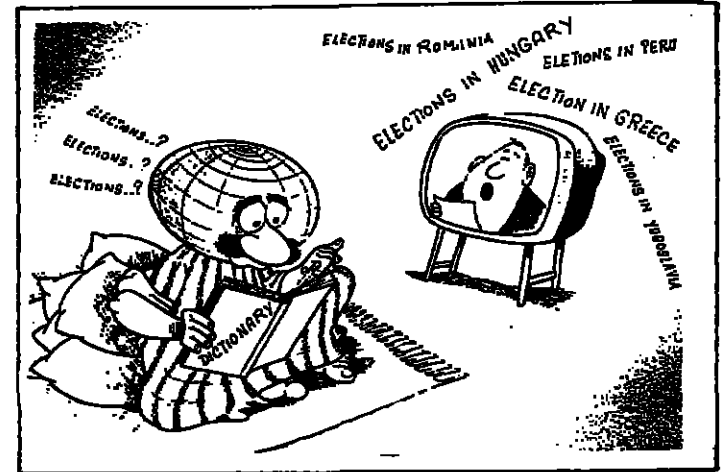
existence of a democracy. Indeed, the sovereignty of a people cannot be exerted without a pluralism of ideologies. In a democracy, the various political positions or opinions are freely discussed. Democracy thus implies a spirit which according to some, is "a sense of dialogue". In other words, in a democracy, there must be a majority and an opposition with the latter able to come to power. Thus no monopoly or privilege can be established to back an idea and no state doctrine can be proclaimed. The existence of a pluralistic, independent and free press is, of course, equally necessary for a democratic spirit to be lastingly created.

The principle of a majority is recognised as being fundamental in the workings of a democracy. At the end of the 18th century, Abbot Sieyès (1748-1836) consi-

dered the principle of majority as "an incontestable maxim". But, naturally, there must also be a true freedom of opinion without which the ideas of the minority could not be expressed and circulated.

A democratic regime must have a certain pluralism of institutions in order to present an obstacle to any possible tyranny by the majority. Today, the existence of three governing institutions is considered as inherent in a democratic regime: The institution of the people which exerts the electoral power; the institution of parliament (often divided into two assemblies) which has the power of deliberating; and, finally, the institution of government which has the executive power.

Finally, each national of a democratic country must be free





# Arab peoples' unity faces more crucial questions

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Jordan Times staff Reporter

AMMAN — The pan-Arab peoples conference which ended in Amman earlier this week has indicated a growing popular movement against the U.S.-led American intervention in the region. But, according to analysts, the conference's discussions have raised important questions pertaining to the future and the shape of the emerging organised opposition in the Arab World vis-a-vis Western military presence in the Gulf.

For one thing, will the conference be a nucleus for a series of Arab activities across the Arab World to build up pressure on Arab governments which support the foreign military buildup in the region? Or will its results stop at the fiery rhetoric and inflammatory speeches?

Secondly, which trend in the Arab World will be leading or is qualified to head a popular Arab opposition movement?

Although many Jordanian and Arab activists hailed the conference as an "effective and successful demonstration of Arab popular opposition to Western military intervention, they concede that on its own, the meeting would not be sufficient to generate a pan-Arab organised movement.

"We shall make sure that it be followed up with a series of activities in other Arab countries," said Mamdouh Al Abbadi spokesman of the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance (JAN-DA), which sponsored the Amman meeting.

But some writers and activists were disappointed at what they viewed as the meeting's failure to go beyond the "usual rhetoric and inflammatory speeches."

"We would have preferred that participants avoided emotional rhetoric and focused on logical and coherent analysis. The masses are already mobilised and in high spirits. What they are looking for is mechanism of action," wrote Mohamed Naji Amara, a leading columnist in Al Ra'i who described the meeting as "the first popular demonstration against foreign intervention since 20 years."

Other activists counter that the conference has laid the basis for a mechanism of action by setting a permanent follow up committee and by outlining its short term and strategic objectives.

"The permanent national follow-up committee" which will be formed in the near future, is expected to act as a steering committee of popular protests across the Arab World. A reading of the final communiqué indicates that the committee hopes to emulate the modus operandi of the unified leadership of the intifada in terms of regulating and steering popular activities on the broader scale of Arab countries.

But such a modus operandi, according to analysts, faces some serious constraints. For one the committee and its popular subcommittee's activities are expected to be restrained by the governments which support the U.S.-led military presence in the Gulf. Therefore, a major factor that will determine the success of the permanent committee is the influence of the member political parties in each country, and their willingness to defy these governments.

"In some countries such activities might bring about a head on confrontation between the governments and the political parties," said an Arab activist from Morocco.

The level of political freedoms in the various countries and the security constraints are also important factors. For ex-

ample, the Egyptian government has banned leftist members of Al Tajamo's party from travelling to Amman to attend the meeting while Damascus remains as tight as ever in applying constraints on the movements of political activists.

But if the Egyptian government appears very in-sensitive to any internal criticism of its support of the American-led troops in the Gulf, what is more puzzling was the ban on Islamists to join a Muslim Brotherhood good-will team which was trying to find a solution for the crisis acceptable to Saudi Arabia as well as Iraq.

Jordanian and Arab activists admitted that the absence of an Egyptian delegation has underscored a major weakness in any attempt to unify the opposition Arab movement to the American intervention. Furthermore, the Egyptian leftist parties have so far endorsed a very distinct and explicit stand against the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait.

Contacts made by phone with some prominent leftist intellectuals in Cairo, indicate that they view an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait as a prerequisite to securing a foreign troops withdrawal from the Gulf.

"The Iraqi occupation of Kuwait has invited foreign intervention," said Dr. Mahmoud Amin Al Alem, a leading leftist intellectual and an outstanding Arab philosopher, in a telephone interview in Cairo.

But judging by the letters of support read out at the conference by the Egyptian activists who were barred from travelling to Jordan, the focus of the Egyptian left, appears to be shifting to resistance of foreign intervention.

In a lengthy analytical speech on the first day of the conference, Dr. George Habash of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), implied that the emergence of a strong Egyptian and Gulf political opposition movements was crucial "to the struggle for Arab sovereignty."

JANDA officials said that the conference has sent the resolution to the Egyptian parties which were invited to join the permanent national committee.

Dr. Habash, and later in the final communiqué, stressed the need to increase contacts with the Egyptian parties and what he described as the "national movement in the Gulf."

Historically the PFLP has been known for maintaining links and supporting Marxist and pan-Arab nationalist opposition groups in the Gulf states, particularly in Oman and Bahrain. During the eighties, however, these groups appeared to have been weakening if not diminishing in stature. In the view of Arab analysts who are acquainted with the Gulf the Iraqi-Iranian war was one reason which contributed to the weakening of these movements as Baghdad had reportedly retreated its pre-war backing to the pan-Arabist groups.

Other analysts dismiss the possibility of the emergence of a strong revolutionary movement in the Gulf states. "The class structure, which grants special privileges to the indigenous population in the Gulf prevents such a possibility," a Jordanian analyst who lived in one of the Gulf states argued. Many Arab analysts and activists believe that the Islamic trend has a stronger chance in influencing and creating opposition in the Gulf states to the Western military presence rather than pan-Arabists or leftists.

Some analysts argue that even though the Gulf crisis has

revived a strong wave of pan-Arabism, the Islamist movement remains more qualified and prepared to lead an Arab movement against the foreign intervention.

The Amman-meeting itself has been regarded as the major step so far by secular pan-Arab, leftist and even liberal forces to unify their ranks to lead the popular movement. Analysts argue that the secular have benefitted from an apparent reluctance by the Islamic movements (in the Arab World) — partly due to the lingering influence on some of its wings by Saudi Arabia — to lead an outright opposition to the Gulf states cooperation with the West.

JANDA officials said that the coalition has invited the Muslim Brotherhood organisation in Jordan to take part in the Amman meeting but that the latter preferred not to. Muslim Brotherhood sources told the Jordan Times, that the movement did not object to the meeting in principle but had hopes that it would co-sponsor the event and have a say in determining the guest list. They said that JANDA's response was that there was no time for such preparations as the meeting date was already scheduled.

Officials from both sides said that initial plans to form a national front comprising all trends in Jordan have not materialised yet.

"Despite the common ground against foreign intervention the two trends are still competing to lead the Arab streets," said one analyst.

But in the view of even members of leftist popular parties, the Islamists still have a better chance for influencing public opinion.

"The Gulf crisis has provided the pan-Arabist trend with a historic opportunity to re-emerge as the prevailing trend in the Arab World, but it has to seriously re-organise and make a critical assessment for its past experience," Mr. Issam Shabbi, from the Tunisian Progressive Democratic Alliance (Tajamo'a) said.

Last week representatives of all the Muslim Brotherhood organisations met in Amman to discuss an Islamic initiative to solve the Gulf crisis. The meeting gave way to speculations that there is a lack of consensus within the movement over the need to take a decisive and firm position against Saudi Arabia. "Some Islamist leaders are pushing for

a conciliatory position that would not hurt their links with Riyadh... but in most countries their base is turning against the Gulf states and pushing for a confrontational position," said a Moroccan political activist who is acquainted with the Islamic movement in North Africa.

The Islamic movement, however, appears more organised than the other secular trends.

According to interviews with several members of various Arab secular parties, there has been minimal if any coordination among the various pan-Arab or leftist political organisations.

Therefore, a main objective of the permanent committee is to maintain some form of coordination and cooperation among the various Arab organisations.

"The parties were consumed in local issues at the expense of pan-Arab national issues," said a source attending the meeting.

Economic problems and the struggle for democracy have been two main issues which the Arab parties have focused upon in each country, Arab political activists agreed.

"At this stage we have to strive to combine the struggle for democracy with the pan-Arab struggle for sovereignty and against foreign intervention," said Shabbi from the Tunisian Socialist Democratic Party, "evidently the latter will now have to take priority but we cannot and should not ignore the struggle for democracy," he added.

The importance of democracy was stressed by many participants who pointed out that the Amman-conference, which constituted a starting point, could not have taken place if it was not for the democratisation process in Jordan.

"The democratisation process in Jordan will have a far reaching impact on the region," said Dr. Habash. But it seems that it is the political parties in the Maghreb, which acted as one bloc and produced many of the practical suggestions to the conference, which are expected to play the crucial role in leading the movement in the future.

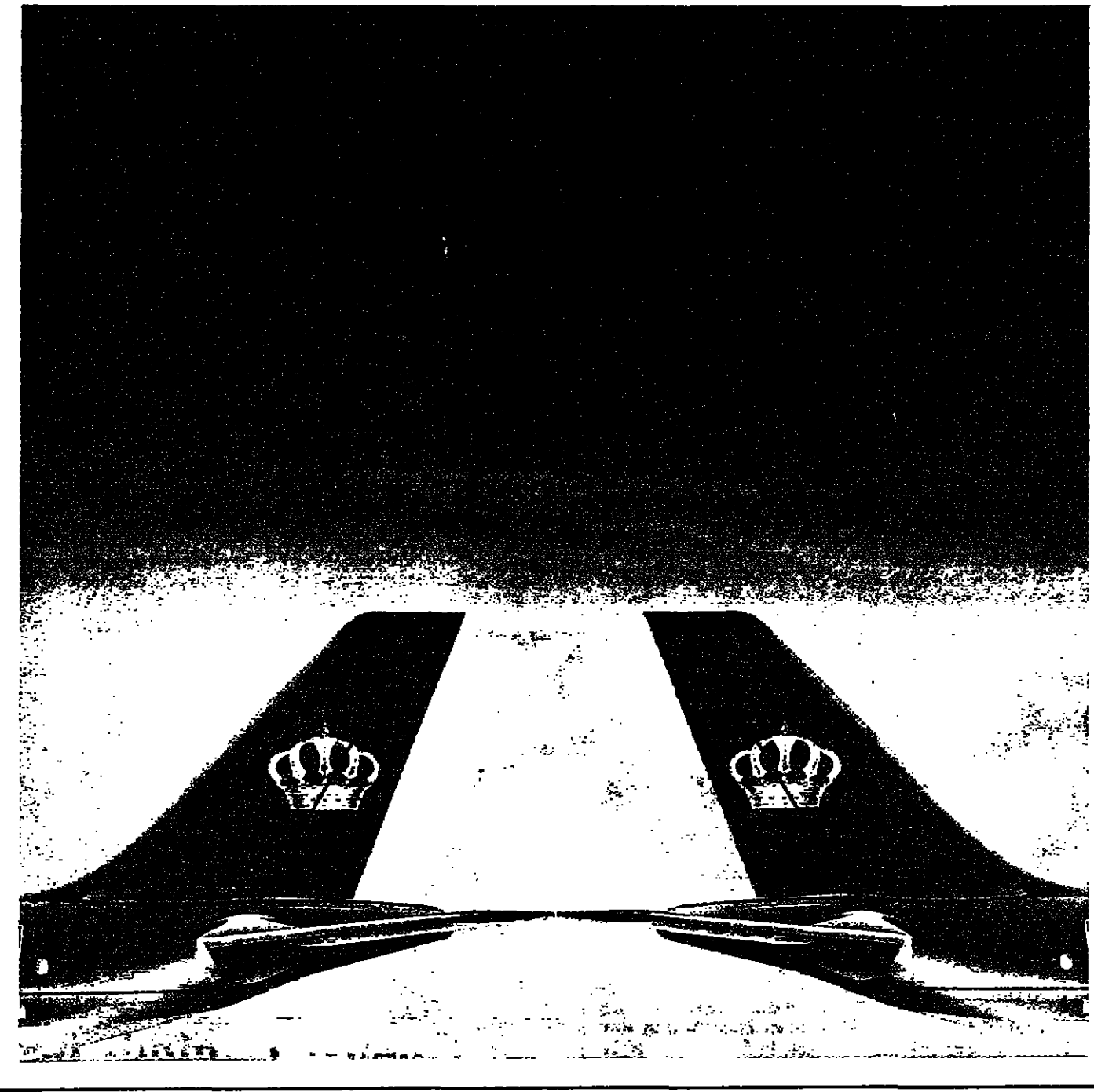
"The Maghreb will provide the necessary weight that the opposition popular movement will need to compensate for the absence of an effective role by the Egyptian parties," predicted a Jordanian political activist.

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## Iraq toughens position

(Continued from page 1)

battle on behalf of all Muslims and believers.

"We here in the Iraq of Arabs and Muslim believers have decided without any retreat to lead the gathering of the believers in the land of Iraq until the honest end," it said.

"God wants Iraq to wage the battle on Iraqi soil for the liberation of Jerusalem and other holy shrines."

The television showed President Saddam Hussein presiding over a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council and the leadership of the Baath party.

The statement accused Iraq's enemies of denying the Iraqi people food "and imposing a siege even on civil aircraft in order to put the people of Iraq in a prison."

It told the Iraqi people that they should not worry "to what level the battles might lead you"

"It's a great honour for every Iraqi man and woman and every honest Arab and every honest believer," it said.

The Iraqi statement urged the Iraqi people to stand firm saying God had chosen them to defend "humanity, the poor and miserable people."

It denounced Iraq's enemies saying: "May the curse of God fall on them, fall on those dwarfs that are led by Bush, Fahd and Hosni."



# Asian Games open today

## OCA votes to suspend Iraq from games

PEKING (AP) — Some 4,000 athletes open Asia's version of the Olympics Saturday in festivities staged by a city trying to shed its image as the place where troops gunned down pro-democracy demonstrators 15 months earlier.

In the biggest Asian Games ever, China is expected to win again in the medals race. At stake are 308 gold medals in 27 sports — most of the usual Olympic events plus golf and such Asian contests as sepak takraw and kabbadi.

Asian athletes are among the world's best in archery, badminton, gymnastics, judo, diving, shooting, table tennis and volleyball.

In the 36-nation field, South Korea and Japan are the other major powers, pursued by North Korea, back in action after boycotting the 1984 and 1988 Olympics and 1986 Asian Games.

Taiwan is back in the games for the first time since 1970. A dispute over its use of the name China kept it out until it was readmitted as "Chinese Taipei."

But Iraq is out. Two days before the opening, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) voted to suspend that nation for its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. About 65 Kuwaiti athletes and officials who were outside their homeland at the time have come to Peking to compete.

The Chinese capital has built a towering new Asian Games village, refurbished its sports arenas, repaved streets and lined them with flowers and banners proclaiming "unity, friendship, progress." Everyone from police-

men to waitresses is greeting visitors with unaccustomed politeness.

Some foreign leaders are expected for Saturday's opening ceremonies. They include Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Iranian Vice President Ghafori Fard, North Korean Vice President Li Jong Ok, Thai Deputy Prime Minister Manat Rapanakos, Vietnamese Vice Premier Vo Nguyen Giap, Singapore Second Deputy Prime Minister Ong Teng Cheong and Noboru Takeshita, a former Japanese prime minister.

In the last Asian Games, in Seoul in 1986, China edged South Korea 94 to 93 in the gold medal race. Japan followed with 58 golds, out of a total of 270 at stake then.

In the 1988 Olympics, South Korea won 12 gold medals, fourth best overall, while China took five and Japan four.

Yuan Weimin, chairman of China's 799-member games delegation, said the Chinese will strive to win more than 100 golds this time. But he predicted that the competition would be "even more fierce" than in 1986.

South Korea looks for North Korea to cut into its medal winnings this time, making it hard to duplicate its past successes. Like the South Koreans, the athletes from the North are strong in wrestling, weightlifting, boxing, judo and shooting.

"North Korea's entry will make a big difference," said Chang Chung Shik, head of the 668 member South Korean delegation.

The North is sending its largest sports delegation ever — 559 athletes and officials.

Japan, once Asia's dominant sports power, hopes for triumphs again in swimming and track and field, and in its native sport of judo, where South Korea has been strong in recent years.

"We hope to win as many gold medals as possible but I think it's impossible to gain the top place in Peking because new events — like kabbadi and sepak takraw — were added this time and many of them are China's specialty," said Tsutomu Kato of the Japan Olympic Committee (JOC).

Sepak takraw, popular in South East Asia, is played by kicking a rattan ball over a net on a court similar to a badminton court. In kabbadi, teams score by touching opponents on the opponents' side of the court. An attacking player must continuously shout "kabbadi, kabbadi," and opponents can eliminate him from the game by holding him down until he has to stop the chant to catch his breath.

JOC Chairman Hironoshin Furuhashi predicted that China would win 120-150 gold medals, South Korea 60-70, Japan 50-60 and North Korea about 30.

Among the closely watched individuals will be Indian female track star P.T. Usha, who won four gold medals in the 1986 games and did the same in last year's Asian Athletics Championships, after a disappointing performance in the 1988 Olympics.

Chinese President Yang Shangkun is to declare the games open

in ceremonies Saturday in the 71,000-seat Workers Stadium.

They feature parachute jumping, a 600-piece army band, 1,400 athletes performing the Chinese shadow-boxing exercise of Taijichuan, and dances with such themes as Lotus Swaying on Green Water.

Practice races are scheduled Saturday in yachting, but other competition does not begin until Sunday. The games end on Oct. 7.

Meanwhile Iraq said Friday the expulsion of its athletes from the Asian Games because of its invasion of Kuwait was unjust and a "mark of disgrace" on the sporting movement.

The Olympic Council of Asia voted 27 to three in a secret ballot Thursday to ban the Iraqi athletes and suspend Iraq indefinitely.

The ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said: "It is considered a mark of disgrace on the OCA's forehead which was founded on principles and ideas aimed at bringing closer Asian youth athletes and developing their capability and skill away from all political trends."

Al Thawra reiterated previous Iraqi accusations that rich Gulf countries had bribed the poor Asian nations to vote against Iraq.

"The men of Asian sports resorted yesterday to the language of the dollar, which to some of them is the clearest language and the nearest to the heart."

It added: "Sports in this continent has become a commodity which can be traded. And the winner is the one who pays more than the others."

## Australia leads in Davis Cup against Argentina

SYDNEY (R) — Pat Cash revived memories of his 1987 Wimbledon triumph and Wally Masur finally buried a Davis Cup nightmare from the same year to give Australia a 2-0 lead in the cup World Group semifinal against Argentina Friday.

The style of the two Australians' triumphs, which gives the home side a great chance of playing in their 32nd Cup Final, could not have been more different.

Cash was never troubled by Alberto Mancini, who loathes grass courts, while Masur had to fight back courageously from two sets down against Martin Jaitte to win 3-6 6-7 6-4 6-0 6-2.

Cash destroyed Mancini 6-1 6-1 6-2 in the opening singles, a 90-minute humiliation only slightly eased by the Argentine revealing he was carrying a serious shoulder injury.

It was Davis Cup singles of 1990, serving and volleying faultlessly and harrasing Mancini with backhands of rare precision.

"That was the best, errorless tennis I've seen on grass," said Captain Neale Fraser, himself a former Wimbledon champion.

"You could count the number of unforced errors on one hand," Cash was delighted with his performance which showed he has recovered his renowned speed around the court after a serious leg injury last year.

"I didn't do much wrong. I'm very pleased with it," Cash said. "I expected to be a little nervous but I dropped into a great

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The Autumnal Equinox sets off a determined new condition in your chart that must be recognized and dealt with unless it is already under control. Blocks or hold ups will no longer prevail.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You would be wise now to carry through with whatever interesting course of action has already been started and do various facets yourself.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) A condition at your residence that has been put off can now be approached from a very conventional manner and handled.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have responses to make to the request of others whether by word of mouth or by writings and you best do so by raising level to some humor in answering.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Not the day to branch out in any new investments or business propositions but behind the scenes analysis of them can be constructive.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You have some ambitious goal today but there are some difficult factors to contend with so don't force results beyond their natural tendency to give.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You are eager to work out a

course of action for the future, in private or with a secret advisor that is not apt to include all necessary factors involved.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Not the day to approach a loyal and general companion for assistance unless it is in a very understanding and offhand fashion.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You have a number of worldly situation to take care of today and you need to be more conscientious in performing them and get the advice of a bigwig.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) A day for you to spend the major portion of your time analyzing just what you can do to make a fresh start but not the day to actually do it.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) A good day of the week to consider all your various business arrangements and get them behind you so you free some oncoming valuable time.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Much comes into the open showing you what you have left undone where some public interest or activity is concerned, put issues behind you quickly.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Consider well the state of your environmental conditions and just what you can do to make them appear and operate more as suits your style and comfort.

## 10 nations accepted for America's Cup challenge

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The field of challengers for the 1992 America's Cup has been rounded out at 12 syndicates from a record 10 nations with the late addition of a Soviet group, organizers said.

The Red Star Syndicate of the Leningrad Yacht Club was accepted last Monday during a meeting in Perth, Australia, of the Challenger of Record Committee.

Eleven challengers had posted the required \$150,000 performance bonds by the Sept. 3 deadline.

The Soviet syndicate asked for and received an extension, saying its paperwork and funding had been delayed.

"The field of 12 challengers

from 10 nations makes this the most international America's Cup in the 139-year history of the event," said Stan Reid, chairman of the Challenger's Executive Committee.

Four nations will be competing in the America's Cup for the first time: The Soviet Union, Japan, Spain and Yugoslavia.

Nine syndicates that originally challenged have dropped out.

"Having 10 challenging nations versus the former record of six in 1987 is a significant increase indicating interest in the America's Cup among more people of more countries than ever before," said Tom Elman, general manager of the America's Cup Organising Committee (ACOC).

## Atalanta fears trouble at 2nd leg UEFA Cup match

BERGAMO, Italy (R) — Italian soccer club Atalanta fear more crowd trouble when they play Dinamo Zagreb in Yugoslavia in the return match of their UEFA Cup tie after violence during this week's first leg.

"We've got our helmets ready for Zagreb," Atalanta's Argentine World Cup star Claudio Caniggia said Friday.

Nearly 30 people, mostly Yugoslavs, were injured during brawling between Dinamo fans and police before and after Wednesday's first leg in Bergamo, a 0-0 draw, police said. About 25 people were arrested.

They said a judge Thursday gave two Yugoslavs in their early 20s five-month suspended sentences for attacking police officers and ordered them to be expelled

from Italy.

A Yugoslav teenager lost his sight in one eye after being knifed in the face by fellow Dinamo fans. The victim was wearing an Atalanta scarf he had just been given in exchange by a local supporter.

Police confiscated numerous chains, bottles, sticks and stones from Yugoslav fans.

An Italian fan is recovering in hospital after a fire cracker exploded beside him during the game, causing him to lose his balance and fall to the lower tier in the stadium during the game.

Some 300 Italian fans of the "Friends of Atalanta" Supporters' Club have cancelled their trip to Zagreb for the second leg on Oct. 3 for fear of trouble with local supporters.

## Crystal Palace faces biggest test of season

LONDON (R) — Crystal Palace, the surprise side among the pacemakers in the English Soccer League, play a London derby Saturday which should reveal whether their lofty position truly reflects their status.

The F.A. Cup finalists, who spent most of last season fighting off relegation, visit Tottenham Hotspur, who are third, a place ahead of Palace although only on goal difference.

Both sides are unbeaten, but the early-season fixtures, which always produce an improbable contender among the teams at the top of the table, have given the south London side an easier start.

Fortune may still smile on Palace at White Hart Lane Saturday, however, as Tottenham's lethal goalscoring duo Gary Lineker and Paul Gascoigne are both doubtful starters.

Between them they have scored seven of Tottenham's eight goals this season and manager Terry Venables, who won Palace promotion to the first division in the 1970s, said Friday it was "touch and go" as to whether the pair played.

Gascoigne is still struggling to overcome a thigh strain picked up in Tottenham's 2-0 win at Leeds last week while England captain Lineker strained a muscle.

Another plus for Palace, whose victories have been against newly-promoted Sheffield United, struggling Norwich and Chelsea, is the return from injury of midfielder Alan Pardew.

But it is probably London's only other unbeaten side, Arsenal, who will be pushing champions Liverpool to the fullest.

Arsenal, who broke the Merseyside domination of the 1980s when on the championship two seasons ago, are equal with Tottenham and Palace, four points behind Liverpool.

Their Swedish World Cup winger Anders Limpar — a close-season signing — has added pace and creativity to the side.

He scored one and had a hand in the other three goals in Arsenal's 4-1 win over Chelsea last week and will undoubtedly prove a handful for Nottingham Forest's England defenders Des Walker and Stuart Pearce Saturday.

## Young Argentine player hopes to equal Maradona

PISA, Italy (AP) — He has the same first name as Argentina's most popular soccer figure, and experts believe he could produce the same wonders.

Though Diego Simeone, 20, since arriving in Italy has protested comparisons with Diego Maradona, he admits that the captain of the Argentine national team and of Italian Major League Napoli is a model he would like to imitate.

Simeone joined Pisa in the Italian Major League this season. He earned headlines in Italy for his goal in last Sunday's match against Lecce.

The goal, preceded by a soft job over the heads of two rival defenders, was considered a masterpiece by Italian soccer writers and was called the best goal of the day by Sandro Mazzola, a former Italian national team star and a television commentator.

Simeone's play, along with goals by Italian striker Lamberto Piovaneli, took Pisa to a surprising first place tie with powerful A.C. Milan and Internazionale.

"My first goal in Italy is very important, because it was scored in the most difficult championship of the world, a real soccer university," the young Argentine forward said Tuesday.

"I want to follow the steps of my idols, Maradona and Falcao," he added. "For reaching their levels I will have to work very hard. I will also need good luck."

Paulo Roberto Falcao, the current coach of the Brazilian national team, played in Italy with Rome in the early 80s.

Maradona joined Napoli in 1984 and helped his Italian team to win two league titles in four years.

Simeone played with Argentinos Juniors and Velez Sarsfield the past few years. He hopes a good showing in the Italian League may help him to gain back a place on the Argentine national team.

He had seven caps and one goal before being dropped by coach Carlos Bilardo from the list 22 for this year's World Cup in Italy.

Pisa has spent about \$1.3 million to transfer Simeone on a three-year contract.

Club President Romeo Anconetani, who has the reputation of being a top soccer expert and a good businessman, may get at least five times original investment from other Italian clubs if Simeone does well, as expected, in his first season in Italy.

## THE BETTER HALF.

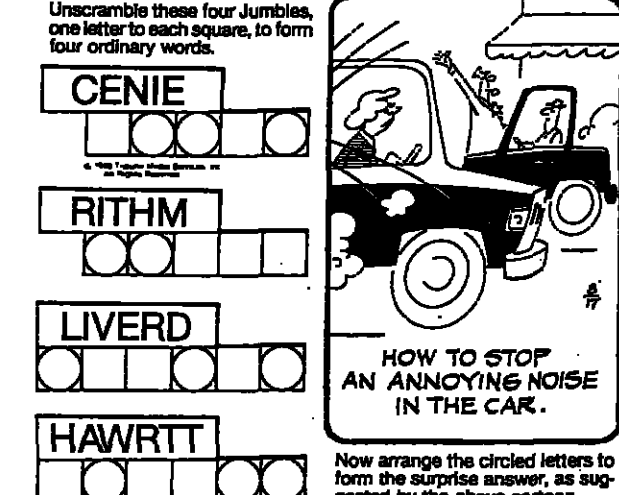
By Harris



"Harriet is a little moody today."

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

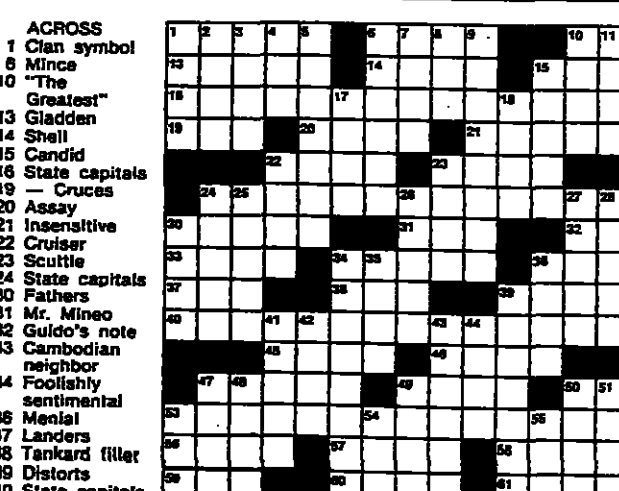
Answer: CENIE RITHM LIVERD HAWRTT

Yesterday's Jumbles: EXCEL BERYL WIDEST HAMMER

Answer: A vegetarian will chew vegetables and --- ESCHEW MEAT

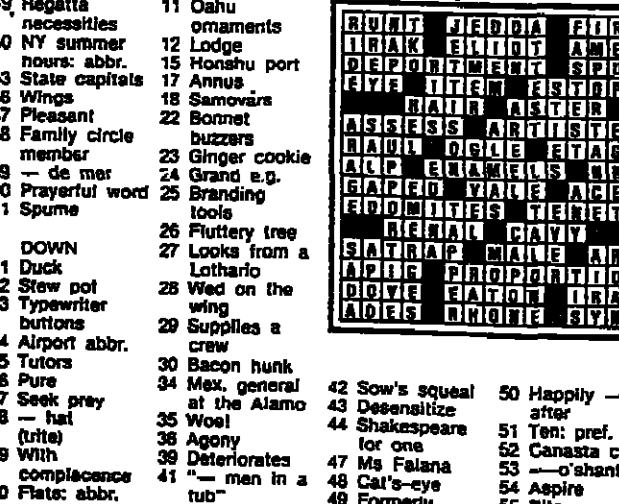
## THE Daily Crossword

by Diane C. Baldwin



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMARA HUNTER

1976 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

TOO EASY FOR EXPERTS!

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**

♠ 8

♥ A 9 7 6 3

♦ K 6

♣ 10 6 3 2

**EAST**

♠ K Q J 10 7 6 5 4 3

♥ Q 8 4 2

♦ J 10 5

♣ Q J 9 5 4 3 2

**Void**

♠ K 5

**SOUTH**

♠ A 9 2

♥ Void

♦ A 10 8 7

♣ A Q J 9 8 4

**The bidding:**

South West North East

1 ♠ 4 ♠ 5 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

**Opening lead:** King of ♠

In every field, you come across a situation so simple that everyone is lured into a sense of false security. That is true at the bridge table, too. This easy play problem revealed a blind spot in a host of very good players.

We like North's decision to bid five clubs, suppressing a very good heart suit. With so many major-suit cards accounted for, it was a near certainty that South had a genuine club suit. South had the values to go on to slam, but fell victim to snow-

blindness.

Declarer won the opening spade lead in hand and, in an effort to take the trump finesse, led a diamond toward the King. West ruffed and reverted to spades and East over-ruffed dummy for a one-trick set. A most unfortunate set of circumstances. Over the years this hand has circulated around the bridge world, and some of the world's great players can be counted among its victims.

Actually, the play of the hand is simplicity itself. All South has to do at trick two is bang down the ace of clubs. If trumps are 2-1, declarer can claim, since he can ruff two losers and discard two on winning hearts.

If trumps are 3-0, it's most unlikely that West holds them. And if he does, there are many combinations of the cards that will still allow declarer to get home; a red-suit squeeze against East, for instance. And if East has the three trumps, declarer has no problem. East surely has at least three diamonds, so declarer will be able to ruff one diamond low, take two discards on the high hearts and then ruff his remaining loser with the ten of trumps, losing only one trick to the king.

Bridge is such an easy game!

## Andy Capp



## Peanuts





## Commonwealth ministers back British debt plan

PORT OF SPAIN (R) — A British debt relief plan for the world's poorest countries won strong backing Thursday from Commonwealth finance ministers but must clear a bigger hurdle when it goes before major industrial nations.

A communique issued after a two-day meeting welcomed the plan presented by British Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major calling for up to \$18 billion owed to Western creditor governments to be written off.

Finance ministers from more than 40 Commonwealth nations called on the so-called Paris Club of creditor governments to adopt the plan.

"At this stage the expectation and hope was that the proposals would find a favourable response in the Paris Club. We did not contemplate what would happen if the opposite were the case," Commonwealth Secretary General Emeke Anyaoku told a news conference.

A British treasury official strongly defended the proposal even though he acknowledged there may be some bargaining ahead with Britain's main industrial partners.

"The logic behind this is unassailable, even though it may

## Czechoslovakia rejoins IMF fold, seeks help for reforms

WASHINGTON (R) — Czechoslovakia rejoined the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank Thursday after a break of more than 35 years and immediately announced plans for major borrowing to support its economic reform programme.

Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus said Czechoslovakia would seek financial support from both the fund and major industrial countries to back a package of sweeping economic reforms due to come into force Jan. 1 next year.

But Klaus warned that the Gulf crisis and spiralling world oil prices would have a serious impact on the economy and could make it more difficult to sell tough reforms to the people as Czechoslovakia tried to set aside years of communist central planning.

"This will complicate our reform measures dramatically," Klaus told a news conference after signing articles of agreement to make Czechoslovakia the 152nd member of the IMF and World Bank.

"It is a very unhappy coincidence of events, it is coming at the same time as we are introducing radical economic measures and cutting subsidies at home," he noted.

Czechoslovakia had been one of the founding members of the IMF and World Bank, taking part in the 1944 Bretton Woods conference in New Hampshire which shaped the post-war world monetary order.

But, in 1954 the communist government in Prague pulled out of the IMF and World Bank as the Soviet Union and its allies set up a rival East Bloc economic system based on barrier and grouped around the trade organisation Comecon.

Bulgaria has also applied to join the IMF and World Bank and is expected to be admitted next week. The Soviet Union is sending a special delegation to this year's annual fund and World Bank meetings now getting underway here but has as yet made no formal application for membership.

World Bank President Barber Conable said Thursday he did not expect the Soviet Union to join soon.

Klaus, who made rejoining the fund his first task in the new Czechoslovak government after last year's revolution, said he wanted to negotiate a "stand-by" credit with the IMF and was

## Philippines increases oil price

MANILA (R) — The Philippines Friday raised petrol and fuel oil prices by between 21 and 36 per cent, sparking strike threats from major labour and transport organisations.

President Corason Aquino said the government was forced to raise prices because of the Gulf crisis and warned labour groups against causing unrest.

The government cushioned the increase by reducing the tax on oil before announcing the rise in retail prices, fearing that right-wing army rebels would use the oil price issue as a rallying point to launch a fresh coup attempt.

Although the Philippines imports almost all its oil, prices are still among the lowest in Asia.

The price of premium petrol was increased by 25.5 per cent to 8.86 pesos (34 U.S. cents) a litre.

Aquino, who has survived six coup attempts since being swept to power in a popular revolt in 1986, said prices had to go up because they were set when oil averaged \$15 a barrel, against the present price of over \$30.

She urged the country of 60 million people to conserve energy.

## Jordan, Turkey and Egypt to get special aid from World Bank, IMF

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank have pledged to draw up an aid package for countries hurt by the Gulf crisis and sharply higher oil prices.

World Bank President Barber Conable said Thursday the bank would coordinate with the IMF in the financing package that will include a multilateral pool of funds that could help offset the economic misery caused by the crisis, particularly in the frontline states of Jordan, Turkey and Egypt.

At the same time, they are assessing the global damage of the jump in oil prices and the loss of income which workers in the Gulf had sent home to their countries.

"There are several things we can do and expect to do," Conable told reporters.

"The Gulf crisis will severely impact some nations," IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus told a news conference Thursday. "We expect to be able to help all our countries overcome these difficulties."

Both Conable and Camdessus spoke with reporters as finance

## Gulf aid package pressures Japanese government and business community

TOKYO (R) — After pledging a \$4 billion aid package to the Gulf, Japan's government says it is strapped for cash.

Many economists expect the government to knock on the door of prosperous private industry. But corporations may prove slow to answer.

"We want to play an active role in burden sharing," said Yoshiharu Tateishi, a spokesman for

automotive giant Toyota. "But we're running a business. We are not in a position to contribute free goods to the government."

Bowing to U.S. pressure, Japan last week boosted its initial \$1 billion pledge of Gulf aid to \$4 billion — \$2 billion in economic aid to "frontline" Middle East countries, and \$2 billion in non-military aid to multinational forces.

Announcing the new package Sept. 14, foreign ministry spokesman Tazuo Watanabe admitted that the government did not know where a lot of the promised funds for the multinational forces would come from.

Japan is simultaneously trying to avoid fresh government deficit spending, meet requests from various agencies for higher funding, and comply with U.S. demands to spend more on public works to stimulate imports.

Tokyo is also under pressure to increase foreign aid to many countries, quite aside from the Gulf crisis.

Watanabe said Japan faced "serious budget constraints" and the extra aid to the Gulf forces would tax the government. He said the finance ministry would instruct other ministries to cut

## Venezuela, Tunisia and Bolivia join GATT

GENEVA (R) — Tunisia, Venezuela and Bolivia have joined the world trade forum, the General Agreement on Trade and Trade (GATT), in the past month, raising its total membership to 99, a GATT spokesman has said.

Costa Rica is likely to become the 100th member in the coming weeks after its ratification, and Algeria, Bulgaria, China, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nepal and Paraguay are all negotiating membership.

Geneva-based GATT, founded in 1948 with a mission to liberalise world trade, covers around 90 per cent of international commerce.

Members qualify for most-favoured nation trading status with other member states, and if they think they are being treated unfairly, they can take their dispute to a GATT panel.

Tunisia, which became a contracting party Aug. 19, agreed to bind tariffs on a majority of its imports at levels ranging from 17 to 52 per cent.

Once tariffs are bound, they cannot be raised unless other trade concessions are offered to the GATT forum.

Oil exporter Venezuela joined Aug. 31, binding its entire tariff schedule at 50 per cent, to be lowered in two years to 40 per cent. It had already reduced its tariff rates from as high as 135 per cent.

Bolivia became a member Sept. 8, and bound its entire tariff schedule at a ceiling of 40 per cent. It described its accession as an act of faith in the multilateral trading system and in GATT.

## Unity threatens jobs for 75 per cent of East Berlin key bureaucrats

EAST BERLIN (R) — Seventy-five per cent of East Berlin's 13,000 cabinet ministry staff will be sacked, retired early or put on a waiting list for rehire after German unification, the government said Friday.

Cabinet ministry staff are mainly headquarters policy-makers and administrators — in addition to the 1.5 million employed throughout the state bureaucracy.

The East German government personnel office said only a tenth of these key employees in the bloated formerly communist ministries could expect to be retained as civil servants with job security in the new Germany.

Some 10 to 15 per cent would be kept as contractual employees for specific tasks, it said.

Fifty per cent would be placed on a waiting list with 70 per cent pay and encouraged to enroll in retraining programmes pending a decision on their future by the early summer of 1991.

The rest would be fired or handed early retirement.

"Any employee found in planned background checks to have collaborated with the former communist security police, the Stasi, was unlikely to be kept on in the new government."

East German ministries employed 30,000 people before the 1989 popular revolution.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES			
Thursday, September 20, 1990 Central Bank official rates			
	Buy	Ask	
U.S. dollar	658.0	662.0	125.0
Pound Sterling	1239.4	1246.8	481.5
Deutsche mark	415.7	421.2	156.4
Swiss franc	302.5	305.5	109.4
Japanese yen (for 100)			484.4
Dutch guilder			373.7
Swedish crown			114.3
Italian lire (for 100)			56.4
Belgian franc (for 10)			204.4

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES			
Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.			
	One Sterling	One U.S. dollar	
U.S. dollar	1.8455/65		125.0
Canadian dollar	1.1547/57		481.5
Deutsche mark	1.5800/10		156.4
Dutch guilder	1.7795/7805		373.7
Swiss franc	1.3215/25		109.4
Belgian franc	32.40/45		204.4
French franc	5.2850/2900		
Italian lire	1175/1176		
Japanese yen	137.20/30		
Swedish crown	5.7920/70		
Norwegian crown	6.0915/65		
Danish crown	6.0085/0135		
One ounce of gold	389.00/389.50		

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4 bed/4 bath (F)	Semi-villa	Abdoun	8500 JD/year
2 bed/2 bath (F)	2nd floor apt	Shmeisani	5000 JD/year
3 bed/2 bath (F)	1st floor apt	Abdoun	6000 JD/year
3 bed/2 bath (F)	1st floor flat	Al-Gardien	5500 JD/year
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Managing Director

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Madeline Tabar  
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**2-SENIOR WEEK**  
5:15, p.m.

Cinema **NIJOUN** Tel: 675571  
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Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00 p.m.  
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155  
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In **TEMPLE OF DOOM**  
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144  
**BIRDY**  
3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30  
Performances:

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238  
Izzat Al Alail  
Yahya Al Fakhrani  
In **Execution of a Judge**  
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.



1990 S. Africa death toll reaches 1,700

## Mandela ready to meet Buthelezi

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela said Friday he was ready to meet Inkatha chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi to help end faction fighting that has claimed almost 1,700 lives this year.

Mandela, saying that Buthelezi was his friend, praised the Inkatha leader and said the two groups must end their rivalry. The statement represented an abrupt turnaround after the ANC had for months refused to deal with Buthelezi.

There was no immediate response from Inkatha.

"I remain indebted to him because of our friendship and the support that he has given to me," Mandela said in an interview with state-run South African Broadcasting Corp (SABC).

A senior police officer said Friday 1,689 people have been killed and 1,607 injured in political violence in South Africa so far this year, with hundreds dying in recent weeks. The dead included 36 police officers, he said.

It was the first time police had

provided overall casualty figures for the wave of violence sweeping South Africa.

"The present state of unrest and violence is alarmingly intense and widespread," Lt.-Gen. Louwille Malan said.

He said 792 people had been killed in recent weeks in bloody battles between ANC supporters and Inkatha followers in the Johannesburg area.

Mandela again criticised the government Friday for recent steps to halt faction fighting around Johannesburg. He said the measures only served the government's interests and did not aid blacks.

"I had in mind that these would be measures, which would take the interests of both black and white into account, that they would be measures acceptable to both sides," he told SABC.

The government last week adopted tougher security measures and sent more police and troops into townships to try and halt the violence. The ANC claims the measures discriminate against their supporters.

The ANC's National Executive Committee issued a statement late Thursday saying it was ready to meet with Buthelezi and other black homeland chiefs. Homelands were set up by the white government as separate states for blacks in a country where blacks have no voice in national politics.

There was no indication of when or where such a meeting would be held.

The ANC, blaming Inkatha for the fighting, previously rejected meeting with Buthelezi. The statement Thursday still blamed Inkatha "vigilantes" and "elements" of government security forces for the violence.

It also said the government had adopted a "laissez-faire" attitude toward the violence in the hope it would generate "insecurity, fear and terror" to make citizens accept authoritarian measures.

Buthelezi, the KwaZulu homeland chief minister, has previously rejected efforts by his opponents to classify him solely as a homeland chief. He has sought to deal with the ANC as a political

equal and called repeatedly for a meeting with Mandela.

The two black opposition movements are divided by differing visions of a future South Africa and strong leadership rivalries, compounded by tribal differences. Both oppose apartheid.

The ANC statement also reiterated calls for an independent review board to investigate complaints against police. Mandela and other black leaders have alleged that police use unnecessary force and favour Inkatha in the township fighting.

The ANC has warned President F.W. de Klerk that talks on a non-racial South African democracy could collapse unless he acts to stop a black township war which has killed nearly 800 people.

"We warn the South African government that unless it is seen to be taking appropriate measures to apprehend and prosecute the perpetrators of this violence, it will have to assume full responsibility for derailing of the peace process," it said.

## Sihanouk accepts government demand on council

BANGKOK (AP) — Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk urged his guerrilla allies Friday to give the government another seat on a national council if Sihanouk becomes chairman. The concession was an attempt to end deadlocked peace talks.

An agreement could revive the work of the Supreme National Council (SNC), which under a U.N. peace plan is eventually to help guide the nation to democracy through new elections, ending 11 years of war.

The first meeting of this council collapsed Wednesday in Bangkok over the conditions under which Sihanouk, a former head of state and the key figure in any peace settlement, should be made chairman.

In a statement issued from his Peking home, Sihanouk said the three allied guerrilla groups should accept Premier Hun Sen's demand that the government get another seat on the Supreme National Council if Sihanouk becomes chairman.

If Sihanouk became the 13th member of the council, as the guerrillas have demanded, he would have tie-breaking power.

Sihanouk's statement Friday noted news reports that the U.N. Security Council has urged the four factions to send a unified delegation to the current U.N. General Assembly session to take Cambodia's seat. The quarrel over the Supreme National Council had stalled selection of this delegation.

"I request to my comrades in arms in the Cambodian resistance... to make a gesture which shall be appreciated by our people and the international community by accepting that the Phnom Penh side appoint a 7th representative to the SNC, if Norodom Sihanouk is eventually elected president of the SNC," Sihanouk's statement said.

## Yeltsin unhurt in Moscow car crash

MOSCOW (R) — Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation and a key figure in the Soviet Union's mounting political and economic crisis, was involved in a car crash Friday but an aide said he is not hurt.

"He is in hospital for a check-up. He is alive and well, and smiling," Valentina Lantseva, Yeltsin's information aide, told Reuters. "There is no need for any panic."

A Moscow police spokesman said the accident happened about 8.30 a.m. on Moscow's central Tverskoi Street as Yeltsin was driving to the parliament of the Russian Federation where he was due to preside over a morning session.

On Thursday, the parliament of the highest republic voted to call on the central Soviet legislature, the Supreme Soviet, to de-

mand the resignation of Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov because of his resistance to radical economic reform.

Since Yeltsin, 59, became Russian Federation president in May, the parliament has become increasingly radical and championed the cause of wide-ranging independence from Moscow among all the 15 Soviet republics.

Lantseva, contacted by telephone, said the accident happened when a small passenger saloon "broke traffic regulations and shot out, hitting Boris Nikolayevich's (Yeltsin's) car on the side he was sitting."

"But it was nothing serious. He is conscious. He has telephoned his wife from hospital. There is no danger to his life whatsoever."

The police spokesman said Yeltsin was expelled from the Communist Party's ruling politburo in 1988 after criticising the pace of Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms — stepped from his car, a black Volga Saloon, unhurt after the accident.

Residents of the apartment building just off Tverskoi Street where Yeltsin lives with his wife said he returned home after the crash shaken but not injured.

## Drug lords kidnap two prominent Colombians

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian cocaine lords claimed responsibility Thursday for the recent kidnappings of two prominent journalists and the sister of a former government official, and demanded that the government treat them as a political group rather than as criminals.

A caller claiming to represent the powerful Medellin cocaine cartel telephoned Colombia's biggest-selling newspaper El Tiempo Thursday to say that its editor, Francisco Santos — seized in Bogota a day before — was in the hands of the cartel, El Tiempo said in a statement.

The spokesman said the cartel had also abducted Diana Turbay, a leading journalist and daughter of a former president, and Marina Montoya, sister of a former top aide of ex-President Virgilio Barco.

The three are all prominent members of the ruling Liberal Party establishment, with close relations with the most influential people in Colombia. Montoya

was abducted Wednesday and Turbay has been missing for three weeks.

The spokesman set out the cartel's position but made no specific demands for the three's release. Nor did he say how long they would be held. He said the traffickers were awaiting orders from cartel boss Pablo Escobar, who he said was in Central America.

The drug barons said they wanted political treatment similar to that given to guerrilla groups that have entered peace talks with the government. Members of the M-19 rebel group were granted amnesty from prosecution when they handed in their arms last March, but the government has refused to give similar treatment to drug traffickers.

Colombian news reports have said that the kidnappings may be part of a cartel attempt to press for a negotiated solution to the drug war. The drug lords declared a unilateral truce two months ago.

## Army called out in north India to quell caste fury

NEW DELHI (R) — The Indian army was called out in the northern city of Chandigarh Friday to quell violent protests against a government plan to set aside jobs for low-caste Hindus.

A leader of a Hindu revivalist party propping up Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's minority National Front government threatened to withdraw support if he does not act to cool the issue.

"If he does not come to his senses, blood will flow in the streets of India and he will be responsible for it," Madan Lal Khurana of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) told a rally in New Delhi.

Gangs of protesters pelted police with stones and set fire to 120 government vehicles in Chandigarh Friday, a day after a student tried to burn himself to death in the Haryana town of Sirsa in protest at the jobs plan.

Chandigarh is capital of both Haryana state and Punjab, where security forces are fighting a decade-old Sikh separatist insurgency.

"We are not handing over the city to the army but we have asked them to restore civil order," Baleshar Rai, adviser to

Chandigarh's governor, told reporters.

Curfew was in force in several areas of the city and all shops and offices were closed, he said.

Three students tried to set themselves on fire outside a Delhi University college earlier this week. One was still in critical condition Friday with severe burns.

They were trying to shock the government into scrapping plans announced on Aug. 7 to set aside another 27 per cent of government jobs for people low down the Hindu social scale.

Already 22.5 per cent of central government jobs are reserved for people of the lowest caste.

The Indian media has reported at least 38 deaths since protests began about six weeks ago. Opposition to the job policy comes mainly from upper caste Hindus who dominate India's business and bureaucracy.

In Jammu City, winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, police fired in the air Friday after protesters against the jobs plan damaged more than 100 buses and cars.

At least 50 people were injured when police used batons to disperse them, state officials said.

## Sri Lankan troops kill 9 rebels in coastal battles

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Government troops killed six Tamil rebels in a raid on a hideout on Sri Lanka's eastern coast, military officials said Friday.

Three other rebels were killed when troops blew up their boat approaching Mandaitivu Island in the north, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Both attacks took place Thursday, the officials said.

Five fiberglass boats carrying rebels were destroyed in the raid at Palawanalan, 225 kilometres northeast of the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo. Mandaitivu is 285 kilometres north of the capital.

Rebels massacre civilians

Meanwhile, police officials Friday said 23 Sinhalese civilians were killed in an attack on a fishing village Wednesday, down from the estimate of 40 dead announced earlier by the Defence Ministry.

The government accused the Tamil Tigers rebel group of the killings at Vellamundel, 170 kilometres north of Colombo.

No contact with the rebels is possible from Colombo. They are based on the Jaffna peninsula, where communication links have been cut since June.

Police officials in Puttalam, 48 kilometres from Vellamundel, said 23 bodies were found in the charred remains of the 11 huts set on fire by suspected rebels.

The victims include 17 men, three women and three children who were hacked and shot to death and their bodies left to burn in the blazing houses, said the officials, who were contacted by telephone. They cannot be identified under standing regulations.

Land mines placed by the rebels delayed troops from reaching Vellamundel, which was accessi-

ble only by boat, said the officials.

The attack was the latest in a series of civilian killings attributed to the rebels, who are fighting for a separate Tamil homeland in the north and the east.

Sri Lanka's north is dominated by the Tamil minority, but some areas have Sinhalese communities. Tamils, Sinhalese and Muslims are about equally distributed in the eastern districts.

Nationwide, Tamils form 18 per cent of the population, and the Sinhalese account for 75 per cent of the country's 16 million people. Muslims make up about 7 per cent.

The surviving grief-stricken villagers, gathered around the bodies of the slain, related the harrowing story.

"I was collecting wood outside when I saw the men. I covered myself with branches and hid until they went away. Then I ran to the nearest jungle to get help," said Elizabeth Muri, whose sister and nephew were killed in the attack Wednesday.

As soon as he saw the armed men, A.K. Romulus fled into the jungle, hearing gunshots as he ran.

"I got into a boat and went across to the nearest village," said the fisherman, whose son was killed by the attackers.

The isolated fishing village has a lagoon on one side. On the other side it is surrounded by thick jungle, a wildlife sanctuary where the Tigers are known to be hiding.

This was the first time the rebels, fighting for a homeland of their own in the north and east, had attacked civilians in the majority Sinhalese-dominated area, a military officer told a Reuters reporter at the scene.

## Ceausescu's son jailed for 20 years

BUCHAREST (R) — Nicu Ceausescu, the son of the late Romanian dictator, was found guilty of aggravated murder on Friday and jailed him for 20 years.

The Bucharest military tribunal decided that Nicu was not guilty of genocide for ordering the shooting of demonstrators during the December 1989 uprising in which his father, Nicolae Ceausescu, and mother Elena were toppled and executed.

Instead the tribunal decided he was guilty of "instigating aggravated murder". Nicu immediately lodged an appeal against the judgment.

Passing sentence, the chairman of the tribunal said Nicu would also be deprived of citizen's

rights, such as the right to vote, for 10 years after finishing his sentence. He was also stripped of his rank as a major in the military reserve.

Nicu, 38, wearing tinted glasses and a chequered jacket, listened with quiet resignation in the courtroom where no more than 30 people, mostly journalists, were assembled.

The sentence was the maximum available for the reduced charge.

Nicu, once renowned as a playboy and heavy drinker, was Communist Party boss in the central town of Sibiu and his father's heir apparent.

During the trial, which began in Sibiu in May, Nicu argued that he had already left the town

before shooting erupted on Dec. 22 with the loss of 91 civilian lives.

His uncle, General Nicolae Andreuta Ceausescu, who ran the secret police training school in Bucharest until December, was convicted of aggravated murder and jailed for 15 years in June.

The general, a brother of the late president, was held responsible for organising the violent repression of protest demonstrations in the capital on Dec. 21-22, in which 540 were killed.

The dictator and his wife were executed on Dec. 25 after a summary military trial, which found them guilty of genocide and wrecking Romania's economy.

Other members of Ceausescu's family still face trial for financial crimes.

## Bulgaria's Socialists form 1-party government

SOFIA (R) — Bulgaria's Socialist Party, the only former Communist Party in Eastern Europe to win a majority in free elections, formed a new, one-party government Friday.

A late-night session of parliament, Bulgaria's first freely-elected National Assembly after four decades of Communist rule, approved a draft list of ministers proposed by Prime Minister Andrei Lukanov.

Most deputies of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), which has refused all offers by the Socialists to join a coalition government, boycotted the vote.

UDF leaders say they spurned the coalition invitation because they want the former Communists to bear the blame for Bulgaria's present economic crisis and chronic food shortages.

The new government contained few surprises. Defence Minister Dobro Dzhurov and Foreign Minister Boyko Dimitrov were dropped from the cabinet and replaced by their deputies.

Dzhurov, 74, is a popular figure with many older Bulgarians. But opposition leaders say he was compromised by his once close association with Todor Zhivkov,

the disgraced hardline Communist leader ousted from power in November.

The government included three independents — Culture Minister Dimo Dimov, Science Minister Iliya Konev and Enilia Maslarova, who will head the new Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare. The Ministry of Justice has still to be filled.

All but one UDF deputy refused to enter the main parliamentary chamber to hear the results of the vote, but sat instead in a gallery for spectators.

A UDF spokesman told parliament the boycott was a protest because the candidates for ministries had not been presented individually to parliament before the vote.

"We deeply regret that such an undemocratic procedure was imposed on us," UDF spokesman Stoyan Ganev said.

Opposition leaders say they do not expect the government to last for long.

"We have to celebrate the election of the last Communist government in Bulgarian history," UDF historian Venzislav Dimitrov told Reuters after Lukanov announced his team.

## Gabon rejects opposition demand for new elections

LIBREVILLE (R) — President Omar Bongo, who survived bitter anti-government protests in May, has risked opposition fury by rejecting mounting pressure for invalidating Gabon's chaotic first multi-party elections.

Bongo's prime minister announced late Thursday that there would be no fresh polls except in constituencies where the first round of balloting Sunday had already been nullified.

The authorities declared the ballot void in 32 of 120 constituencies contesting seats in Gabon's 120-member parliament because of massive polling irregularities and opposition charges of rigging.

A preliminary round would take place in such districts on Oct. 21 with a runoff a week

later, Prime Minister Casimir Oye Mba said on state radio and television.

Political parties have until Oct. 14 to declare candidates.

Bongo, ruler of this oil-rich West African state since 1968, debated the election issue with his inner cabinet all day Thursday after an opposition leader demanded the entire election be declared null.

"We demand the annulment of elections in the entire country," declared Pierre Louis Ogondu, head of the Progress Party of Gabon (PPG) which sacked Gabon's oil capital in anti-government unrest last May.

Ogondu, a lawyer, refused at a press conference Wednesday to speculate on what would happen if Bongo rejected the demands.

## U.S., Philippines adjourn talks on bases

WASHINGTON ready to cut forces

MANILA (AP) — U.S. and Philippine officials adjourned talks Friday on the future of U.S. military bases, with the Americans offering to cut their forces but no agreement on the scale or timetable.

On the eve of the talks President Corason Aquino said the time had come for an orderly withdrawal from the bases, which some Filipinos feel infringe on national sovereignty.

Spokesmen for both sides told reporters Friday that they would resume talks in about a month in Manila. No precise date was announced.

Philippine officials said they want complete control "as soon as possible" of Clark Air Base, the largest U.S. overseas installation.

They stated that position Thursday on the third day of talks on the future of Clark, Subic Bay Naval Base and four smaller facilities. Their lease expires in September 1991.

Chief U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage and Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus had agreed that Wallace Air Station, Camp John Hay, the San Miguel Communications Station and Camp O'Donnell revert to Filipino control next year, according to Philippine spokesman Rafael Alunan.

However, the spokesman for the U.S. panel, Stanley Schragger, said Friday that no decision had been reached on any of the installations.

"The other facilities have been mentioned briefly, and we have not come to a conclusion on what

should be done with any of them at this time," Schragger said.

When the talks began Tuesday, Armitage said the days of a large American military presence here were coming to an end.

Alunan said the United States had proposed a 10-to-12 year phase-out of its forces, but Schragger said no specific schedule had been discussed.

"The duration is something that will be discussed, and we have not really set out any outer limits or parameters on what we would like to see happen at this point," Schragger said.

Alunan said the Philippine government had not yet formed its own position on the withdrawal timetable.

The bases are technically under Philippine control but are effectively run by the Americans, who ruled this island nation from 1898 until independence in 1946.

The United States maintains 40,000 troops, Defence Department civilians and military dependents at the six bases. Schragger said the United States is seeking to maintain access to some of the military facilities.

"They will be Philippine bases to which the U.S. would hope to have some access as it has with other countries around the world," Schragger told reporters Thursday.

Meanwhile angry students taunt club-wielding police with chants of "U.S. bases out." American officials issue dire warnings of bombings and assassinations by anti-bases extremists.

picture of a growing discontent with the 40,000 Americans.

However, a survey last March by the Ateneo University found that 35 per cent of the 1,200 Filipinos polled nationwide were unaware that the United States maintains bases here.

Only 18 per cent wanted the bases either phased out or closed immediately. Forty per cent supported keeping the bases indefinitely.

Despite sizeable pro-bases sentiment, no Filipino politician of national status unequivocally supports retaining the bases, which U.S. officials claim pump \$1 billion annually into the economy of this troubled country.

That illustrates the political realities in a country which calls itself democratic but whose public policy is decided by a few people in Manila.

Over the years, Filipino nationalism has come to be defined as standing up to America and its most visible symbol — the bases.

For bases critics, the issue has little to do with national security, economic impact or the country's relationship with the United States. Japan, Singapore and other nations that rely on the facilities.

Unlike the Japanese, West Germans and others who host U.S. facilities, Filipinos perceive no external military threat. Last year, Mrs. Aquino said the presence of the American forces not only failed to deter Japanese invasion in 1941 but doubtless prompted attack.

Closing the bases would be an

assertion of sovereignty against the United States, which many Filipinos believe still exerts powerful influence over their country more than 40 years after independence.

"You must understand that other Asian peoples, the Singaporeans, and Japanese and the Koreans, can deal easier with the Americans because you were never their colonial master," said one Asian diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"For the Filipinos, it's different. The old relationship of ruler and the ruled is a heavy psychological burden," he said.

Support for the bases would brand a politician as an "anti-nationalist" unpatriotic tool of the former colonial power.

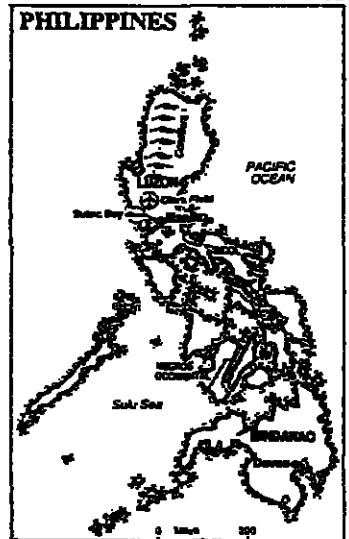
For many Filipinos, it is an article of faith that the United States interferes in Philippine affairs to guarantee keeping the bases.

That view was reinforced by Washington's longtime support for the late President Ferdinand Marcos. Despite alleged U.S. sponsorship of democracy, the Americans tolerated Marcos' repressive rule, apparently to maintain their bases here.

Opposition to Marcos, therefore, took on the added character of opposition to the bases. Many of those in the forefront of the anti-Marcos struggle now hold key positions in the administration, congress and the media.

The bases have become so symbolic of American "intervention" that any U.S. move is seen as a bid to retain the installations.

When Washington ushered out



PHILIPPINES

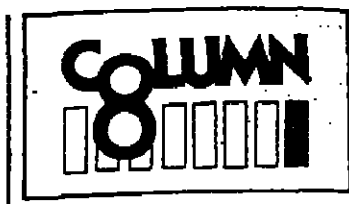
Marcos to Hawaii in the 1986 "people power" revolution, many saw the move as a cynical bid to gain support in the new government for the bases.

Last December, U.S. jets flew cover for pro-Aquino forces against military mutineers seeking to topple her. That too was widely interpreted as a bid to pressure her into keeping the bases.

During a devastating earthquake last July, U.S. troops rushed to stricken cities to help in relief operations. Residents of the quake-stricken city of Cabanatuan joked that the bases would remain forever because the government simply could not function without them.

"The current talks between the Philippines and the United States should usher in a new relationship between the two countries," said Rev. Joaquin Bernas.

"For the Philippines, it should be a major step in the direction of greater self-reliance and not continuing dependency," he added.



## Workers uncover \$100m treasure in Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Seven Egyptian workers found a centuries-old treasure of gold coins in old Cairo which antiquities experts said was worth more than \$100 million.

The seven failed to report the find and divided the hoard amongst themselves but were discovered after one tried to sell his share in the gold market, police said.

Police, who recovered the treasure, said the workers came across an amphora — an ancient two-handled clay pot — filled with some 2,700 coins of 24 carat gold while renovating a building.

The pot was hidden behind a wall in an historic building in Cairo's old quarter near Al-Azhar, one of the world's oldest seats of Islamic learning. Cairo television later showed the coins which experts said dated back to the Memphite Dynasty, which ruled Egypt from the 12th to the 16th centuries.

Experts quoted by Cairo newspapers said the treasure was worth 270 million Egyptian pounds (\$100 million). All the workers have been arrested and charged, police said.

## Truck driver gets shocking surprise

TERAMO, Italy (AP) — A truck driver who went to a brothel expecting a discreet dalliance instead came a shocking surprise — his wife. It turned out the woman, a homemaker by day, had been working as a call girl by night unbeknownst to her husband.

The story was recounted in La Stampa newspaper of Turin. According to the account, a friend gave the 35-year-old truck driver the address of an exclusive bordello in Teramo in central Italy and recommended he ask for a particular woman working there.

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